



COUNTRY-BASED POOLED FUNDS

2022

IN REVIEW

THE COUNTRY-BASED POOLED FUNDS THANK DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT IN 2022

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Credits

This document was produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). OCHA wishes to acknowledge the contributions of its committed staff at headquarters and in the field in preparing this document.

Full project details, financial updates, real-time allocation data and indicator achievements against targets are available at the [CBPF DataHub](#).

For additional information, please contact:

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Front Cover

Captions. Families wait anxiously for their next move at the “Epicentre” assembly point in Zaporizhzhia, where Adra and the UHF provide transportation and relocation assistance for those fleeing with just the clothes on their back.

Credit: OCHA/Matteo Minasi

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Foreword

In 2022, the 19 Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) proved their value during yet another demanding year, allocating more than US\$1.2 billion to ensure life-saving assistance for people caught in humanitarian crises.

This was a record amount, thanks to donors' generous support. Their contributions were also the highest ever, at \$1.3 billion, making it possible to provide life-saving assistance and protection to 47 million people in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. This allowed the Funds to provide rapid support. From purchasing generators that kept hospitals in Ukraine operational to restoring access to drinking water in rural Afghanistan, the CBPFs continually demonstrated their essential role.

And they did this in step with local partners. I saw this in Venezuela, where the Venezuela Humanitarian Fund allocated two-thirds of its funding to local non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Aliadas en Cadena, an organization "of women, for women," used the funds to provide specialized counselling and psychological support to survivors of gender-based violence, and to ensure women take charge of their lives.

Millions of people continued to feel the pandemic's impact, especially those in low-income countries such as the Central African Republic (CAR), where 45 per cent of people in its capital, Bangui, suffered from inadequate access to food. The CAR Humanitarian Fund helped local NGOs, such as African Relief Service, to screen children for malnutrition and provide essential medicines to local hospitals.

2022 demonstrated our ability to ensure aid for those most in need, including reaching people in hard-to-access conflict-ridden areas. In Ethiopia and Somalia, where aid workers faced persistent access difficulties, the Funds helped to maintain aid and alleviate the suffering caused by one of the worst droughts in recent history. And the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund allocated \$20 million to help national and local partners support people in the country's hardest-to-reach areas.

The Funds continued to improve, innovate and adapt to the scale and nature of humanitarian needs, while maximizing the impact of every dollar spent and promoting accountability to the people they serve.

We saw this with the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund, which rapidly expanded its support by allocating \$283 million, almost four times more than in 2020. The Fund sustained life-saving assistance in a deteriorating operating environment, while driving a scale-up of the response in underserved areas. And the Regional Humanitarian Fund for West and Central Africa allocated \$38.4 million to support 1.9 million people struggling to cope with conflict- and climate-related issues in Burkina Faso and Niger.

There are many more examples of success throughout this report.

As the year has shown, the humanitarian system needs strong, well-funded CBPFs more than ever. I salute all donors and humanitarian partners on the ground who made the Funds a success in 2022. I call for more support to make them even stronger.

Martin Griffiths
Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian
Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator



Djibo, Burkina Faso. The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Martin Griffiths, visited Djibo in northern Burkina Faso, where hundreds of thousands of people have sought safety due to a devastating conflict and the changing climate.

Credit: UNOCHA/Amadou Cissé

“

The CBPFs always go to great lengths to support inclusive humanitarian action.

MARTIN GRIFFITHS
UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR HUMANITARIAN
AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR

”

Executive Summary

Executive Summary and Highlights

In 2022, the CBPFs allocated a record \$1.2 billion, enabling partners to address the humanitarian needs of an estimated 47 million people caught up in crises, with a focus on the most vulnerable, including women, children and people with disabilities. This was made possible by the highest ever level of support from Member States, international organizations and the private sector, which contributed \$1.3 billion to the Funds. (see page 10)

Diversifying the donor base

The donor base continued to diversify and funding from the private sector increased significantly. While the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) and Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF) mobilized significant levels of funding, several other CBPFs fell short of their funding targets at a time when fully resourced CBPFs are more critical than ever.

The Funds responded to 2022's most challenging humanitarian crises

The CBPFs employed a flexible mix of Standard and Reserve Allocations to achieve the right balance of inclusivity, speed, focus and customized processes for optimum results. Approximately \$655 million was channeled through comprehensive Standard Allocations open to all eligible partners. Another \$566 million was channeled through Reserve Allocations using lighter allocation processes available to preselected partners. The Funds were instrumental in responding to acute humanitarian needs, most significantly those arising from conflict (\$866 million allocated, or 71 per cent), climate-related and natural disasters (\$274 million, or 23 per cent) and disease outbreaks (\$65 million, or 5 per cent). (see page 13)

The Funds demonstrated unparalleled agility and flexibility to meet humanitarian needs, with some Funds, such as Afghanistan and Ukraine, more than tripling in size. Moreover, the Regional Fund for West and Central Africa (RHF/WCA) continued to provide regionally coordinated funding, enabling agile and flexible responses.

Reaching the most vulnerable

The Funds continued to promote effective programming to ensure that assistance and services were accessible for the most vulnerable people. In 2022, more than 24 million people receiving life-saving support through the CBPFs were women and girls. Moreover, the Funds enabled life-saving support for over 21 million children under 18 and more than 4 million people with disabilities. (see page 25)

Supporting women and girls

In 2022, the Funds championed support for women and girls, strengthening gender considerations in project reviews and allocating funding specifically to address gender-based violence (GBV). To advance women's empowerment and prevent sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), the Funds allocated some \$58 million to projects dedicated to addressing GBV, assisting almost 3 million affected people.

The Funds also provided some \$55 million to local women-led/women's rights organizations (WLOs/WROs) and helped develop the capacity of numerous WLOs/WROs, strengthening their participation in the Funds. They also fostered greater consideration of gender in allocation strategies, prioritization processes and funding decisions. (see page 30)

Promoting localization

In 2022, the CBPFs were leading sources for advancing localization and leveraging the comparative advantages of local and national organizations. With their broad partner networks, the Funds enabled front-line NGOs to deliver humanitarian assistance efficiently, capitalizing on their proximity to affected people and harnessing their local knowledge and social networks. Some \$441 million (36 per cent of the total allocated) went to local and national organizations. \$345 million directly and \$96 million that was sub-granted through partnerships with international NGOs and UN agencies. The direct funding to local and national organizations accounted for 28 per cent of the total amount allocated by all Funds, and 8 per cent through subgrants, exceeding the 25 per cent global benchmark set at the World Humanitarian Summit. Beyond increasing the quantity of funding, CBPFs focused on providing the quality of funding that matches the needs of local and national organizations, advancing their participation in the governance of the Funds, strengthening their capacity and increasing the visibility of localization. (see page 30)

Promoting anticipatory action

Beyond directly enabling life-saving assistance, the CBPFs used funding strategically to strengthen the humanitarian response. In 2022, the CBPFs promoted early responses to deliver critical assistance to people in need ahead of predictable hazards, thereby ensuring more efficient, effective and dignified humanitarian action. (see page 13)

Delivering cash assistance

To empower affected people to make their own choices about the assistance they need the most, the Funds continued to prioritize the use of cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and multi-purpose cash (MPC) assistance when feasible. The CBPFs allocated a total of \$188 million for CVA (or 16 per cent of all funding), including \$52 million for MPC programming. (see page 18)

Consolidating governance and operations

In 2022, the CBPFs made significant progress in strengthening their governance, with the launch of the revised CBPF Global Guidelines as a major milestone. The revision process was highly consultative – with input from the CBPFs' global advisory bodies, the Pooled Fund Working Group (PFWG) and the CBPFs-NGO Dialogue Platform – helping ensure that the Funds continue to adapt to the evolving contexts. (see page 42)

Achieving high standards in fund performance

The Performance of all CBPFs is assessed through a common performance framework underpinned by five key principles: inclusiveness, timeliness, flexibility, efficiency, and accountability and risk management. In 2022, the CBPFs continued to promote inclusiveness and diversity in partnerships, governance and allocation processes. By the end of April 2023, there were 2,387 partners eligible to receive CBPF funding, including 1,284 local and national NGOs, 1,084 international NGOs¹ and 19 UN agencies. OCHA also further enhanced the flexibility of the Funds to ensure that they remain fit for purpose and able to operate in dynamic and constantly evolving contexts. In line with 2021, the Funds' disbursement speed in 2022 remained within the 10-day target. The CBPFs also continued to ensure value for money by efficiently discharging their functions with minimum operational costs. (see page 36)

Commitment to risk management

In 2022, OCHA continued to invest in enhancements to strengthen accountability and oversight, in line with the strong reputation it has built for risk-based management of CBPFs. With increased donor contributions in 2022 and a stronger drive for localization, OCHA took significant steps to enhance tools, policies and capacities, to ensure potential risks that could affect the organization's ability to deliver aid are effectively managed. These efforts demonstrate OCHA's commitment to ensuring the effective and efficient use of donor funds, and to managing risks and promoting accountability in CBPF-funded operations. (see page 41)

¹ International NGOs are counted several times if they are partners to CBPFs in several countries.

About Country-Based Pooled Funds



Evidence shows that the Country-based Pooled Funds have helped to save millions of lives, demonstrating the power of locally-driven humanitarian responses. These Funds, which are guided by the people they serve, effectively deliver aid to people who need it the most.

*António Guterres,
Secretary-General of the
United Nations*

CBPFs are multi-donor Funds established by the Under-Secretary-General (USG) for Humanitarian Affairs/Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC). Their core mandate is to allocate funding based on humanitarian needs and life-saving priorities identified at country level, alleviate suffering and maintain human dignity. Localization is the secondary objective of the Funds. Their country presence and broad partnership networks put CBPFs in an excellent position to strengthen local and national actors' engagement in humanitarian responses.

The Funds are managed by OCHA at the country level under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC). Advisory Boards support the management of the CBPFs through informing key decisions, defining strategic directions for allocations and ensuring efficient and effective management of resources.

Donors pool their contributions in individual CBPFs as unearmarked funds to support humanitarian responses. The Funds directly allocate funding to local, national and international NGOs, UN agencies and Red Cross/Red Crescent societies, which enables them to deliver timely, coordinated and principled life-saving assistance. CBPFs provide funding against the backdrop of the HRPs or other planning documents, and for response to unforeseen emergencies, through Standard and Reserve Allocations

Through strategic and prioritized deployment of funding, CBPFs support the delivery of agile and coordinated responses, strengthen focus on the most vulnerable and ensure effective and efficient use of available resources. The Funds operate in complementarity with other sources of funding, including the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

CBPFs are critical tools for supporting the delivery of OCHA's wider humanitarian mandate, as they promote coordination among humanitarian actors. Through their timely, coordinated and principled assistance, the Funds enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of the humanitarian response, while promoting innovative and strategic approaches.

Since 2021, OCHA has piloted a Regional Humanitarian Fund in West and Central Africa (RHFwCA). The RHFwCA follows the same principles as the CBPFs but offers an innovative approach to bringing the benefits of humanitarian pooled funding to new locations through flexible and agile funding. Following a successful pilot in the region, similar initiatives were under consideration in other regions at the time of writing.

HOW CBPFs WORK

CONTRIBUTIONS



Donors contribute to specific CBPFs.

IDENTIFYING HUMANITARIAN NEEDS



Aid workers on the ground identify the most urgent humanitarian needs and the types of humanitarian assistance that people require, such as shelter, food, clean water and medicine.



MANAGING FUNDS



Contributions are pooled into single funds.



REQUESTING CBPFs FUNDING



Humanitarian partners work together to prioritize life-saving relief activities. They request CBPF funding through the Humanitarian Coordinator.



ALLOCATING FUNDS



Based on expert advice from aid workers on the ground, the Humanitarian Coordinator allocates CBPF funding.*



SAVING LIVES



Relief organizations use the money for life-saving aid operations. They always track spending and impact, and report back to the Humanitarian Coordinator.



In the response to the needs caused by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund was and still is a key instrument to deliver humanitarian assistance in a very swift and efficient way. All over the world, the system of Country-based Pooled Funds allows to provide locally-led humanitarian assistance, in line with the Grand Bargain localization agenda. Germany will continue supporting the CBPFs.

*Louise Amtsberg,
Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and
Humanitarian Assistance of Germany*

*CBPFs are committed to surpass the global, aggregated benchmark of providing at least 25 per cent of humanitarian funding to local and national responders.

Contributions to CBPFs

Contributions to the CBPFs reached a record \$1.3 billion in 2022, thanks to the generosity of donors. Top donors again provided strong support, the donor base continued to diversify and funding from the private sector increased significantly. However, several Funds still fell short of their funding needs at a time when fully resourced CBPFs are more critical than ever.



When you're faced with a situation like Syria – where two thirds of people need humanitarian assistance – the Pooled Funds help us to quickly provide support. Thanks to the predictable generosity of donors, we have had the tools to respond to humanitarian needs in Syria with immediate funding. Furthermore, in deploying funds through the Syria Humanitarian Fund, I have been able to rely on local partners to carry out assessments and implement projects for the most vulnerable communities.

*Imran Riza,
Humanitarian Coordinator,
Syria*

In 2022, donors contributed a record \$1.3 billion to the 19 CBPFs, representing an 18 per cent increase from 2021 and 70 per cent of CBPF's funding targets. The continued donor confidence enabled the Funds to provide the life-saving support described in this publication.

Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Canada, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Ireland, Switzerland and Denmark were the top 10 donors in 2022, accounting for 85 per cent of all funding received. Twenty-eight donors who had contributed in 2021 increased their total contributions in 2022, and several contributed to more Funds than they had in previous years. Continuing efforts to diversify the donor base brought in a new donor, Bangladesh, while five former donors – Bulgaria, Finland, Guyana, Kuwait and Slovenia – returned, bringing the number of Member State donors in 2022 to 36.

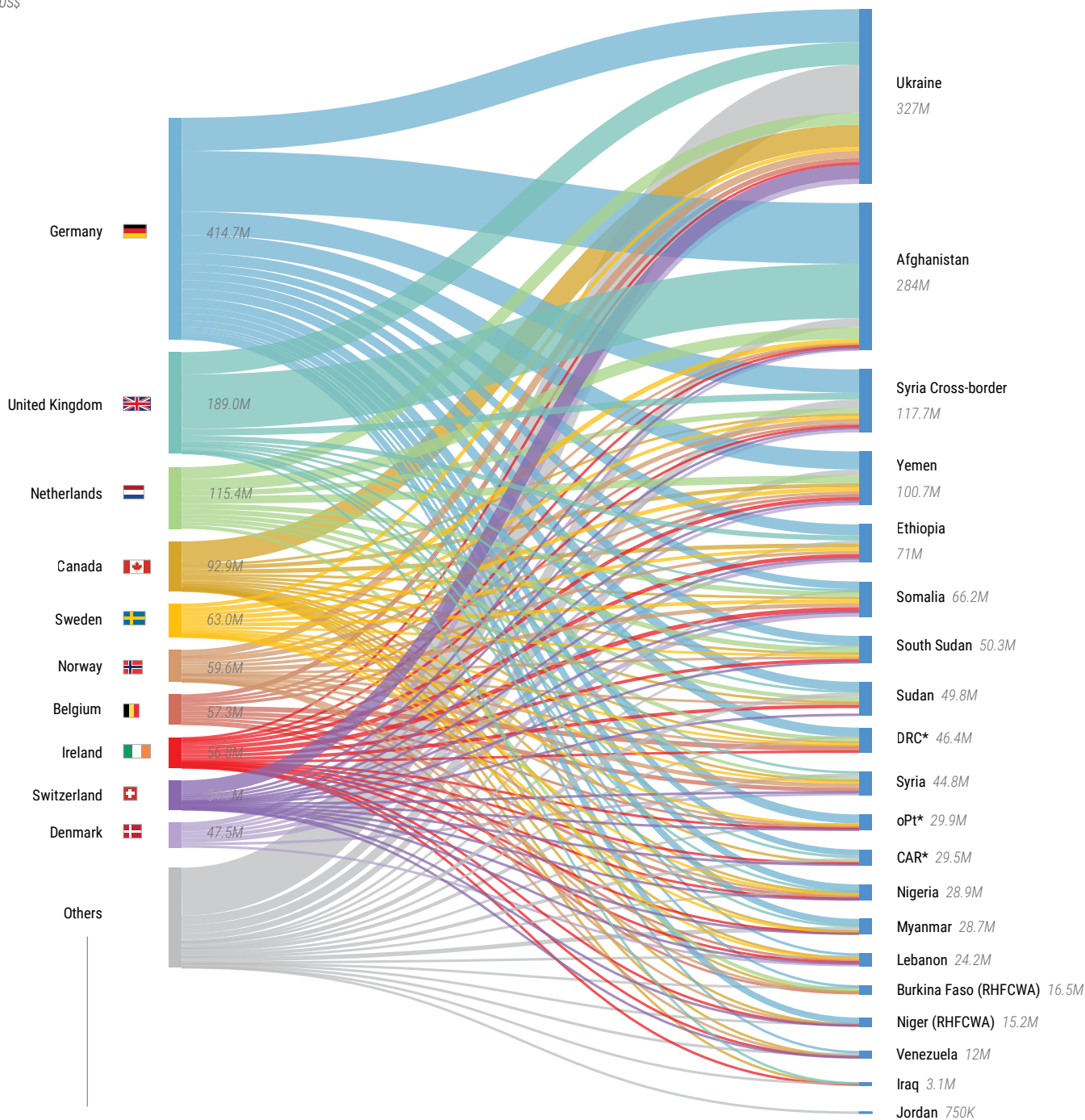
Contributions from the private sector increased to \$9.1 million from \$400,000 in 2021. In response to the Ukraine crisis, the UHF received an unprecedented \$9.1 million from the private sector, about half of which was donated by individuals.

Donors' early contributions and multi-year agreements enabled the Funds to support the delivery of coordinated and principled assistance to people in need. In 2022, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Iceland, Kuwait, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom provided \$98 million (7 per cent of total CBPF contributions) through multi-year agreements,¹ increasing the number of donors with multi-year agreements from eight to nine. With allocation decisions taking place in the field, close to affected populations, the timely disbursement of contributions supported an agile response in often rapidly changing contexts, allowing operational partners to quickly adapt and scale up activities when needed. Approximately 82 per cent of all contributions were received within a month of the pledges being made, which was critical for the planning of allocations.

¹ The calculation and reporting of contributions under Multi-Year Agreements was further refined in 2022 to better reflect the predictability in funding.

DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS 2022

in US\$



United States		44.0M
France		33.6M
Australia		28.8M
Italy		18.5M
Spain		8.8M
Finland		8.0M
Korea (Rep. of)		7.7M
Luxembourg		5.8M
European Commission		5.0M

Japan		5.0M
New Zealand		4.2M
Iceland		1.8M
Jersey		1.0M
Morocco		1.0M
Kuwait		1.0M
Malaysia		400k
Philippines		400k
Lithuania		369k

Slovenia		219k
Estonia		195k
Cyprus		169k
Bangladesh		116k
Croatia		100k
Bulgaria		85k
Guyana		75k
Greece		31k
Azerbaijan		30k

Private donations (through UNF)	9.3M
Private sector	315k

* DRC – Democratic Republic of the Congo
CAR – Central African Republic
oPt – occupied Palestinian territory

Despite donors' unparalleled support, resources contributed to the Funds once again fell short of their goal to attract 15 percent of funding provided to corresponding HRPs. On average, the CBPFs accounted for some 10 per cent of HRP funding in the countries where they are present, a 1 per cent increase from 2021. Although the Afghanistan and Ukraine Funds received unprecedented support several other CBPFs fell significantly short of their funding income target including Nigeria, South Sudan, Venezuela and Yemen, with only 4 per cent.

In 2022, OCHA continued to strengthen advocacy to showcase the achievements of the Funds. [OCHA's Story Hub](#), a collection of stories that demonstrate the impact of the Funds, was updated with contributions from each Fund, and increasingly met donor requests for early content on new crises. Subscriptions to "CBPFs in Action" grew sixfold in the first year of the quarterly email digest, which provides the latest news and funding analysis. The Pooled Fund animation in all six UN languages was the most widely shared

CBPF multimedia asset by donors and partners. Additionally, the [CBPF website](#) continued to serve as the Funds' digital portal, and the [CBPF Data Hub](#) offered real-time information on contributions, allocations and people assisted.

With rising humanitarian needs and an increasing gap between financial requirements and secured funding, investment in the CBPFs is becoming ever more important. The Funds have proven their ability to ensure collective prioritization, strengthen coordination, empower local and national actors, and optimize the use of limited resources.

In 2023, OCHA will continue its efforts to diversify and deepen the donor base and increase the number of early and multi-year contributions. In doing so, OCHA will also continue to promote the Funds as trustworthy and effective mechanisms that work on shared values, build partnerships and enable for corporate and individual giving to help those most in need.



South Sudan. Cash distribution in South Aweil by Welthungerhilfe.
Credit: Welthungerhilfe/
Peter Caton

Allocations overview

In 2022, the CBPFs allocated a record \$1.2 billion in response to the humanitarian consequences of conflicts, natural disasters, climate change and disease outbreaks, reaching 47 million people in 19 countries. The Funds were instrumental in enabling coherent and coordinated life-saving responses to critical humanitarian needs through the allocation of funding to a vast network of 789 partners, of which 43 per cent were national and local organizations.

In 2022, the CBPFs were at the forefront of humanitarian action, enabling rapid scale-up of operations in the largest humanitarian crises. Thanks to the generous support of donors, they allocated a record \$1.2 billion. The funding ensured life-saving assistance in 19 countries² with critical humanitarian needs.

The largest funds were the AHF, the UHF and the Syria Cross-border Humanitarian Fund (SCHF). The AHF allocated \$283 million – the highest level of annual funding ever by a CBPF – mainly to respond to conflict, flash floods, an earthquake, deterioration in access to food and severe winter conditions. Due to the sudden change of the operating environment in Afghanistan, the AHF nearly doubled its size in 2022, employing innovative ways, including rolling allocations, to respond to very high levels of need across the country. The UHF allocated \$192 million to meet the humanitarian needs resulting from the full-scale war in Ukraine, demonstrating unparalleled agility and flexibility through expanding more than twelvefold from \$15 million allocated in 2021. With the third highest allocation level of 2022, the SCHF provided a total of \$141 million to enable comprehensive humanitarian assistance mainly for 1.6 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and communities hosting them, and continued to be a lifeline in addressing critical needs.

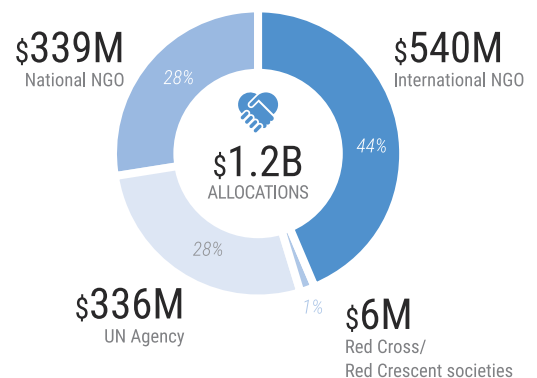
² The RHFwCA supported humanitarian responses in Burkina Faso and Niger, while the SCHF and Syria Humanitarian Fund both supported humanitarian operations in Syria. As a result of the general humanitarian developments in Pakistan, as well as an ongoing change in the humanitarian architecture in the country, including the deactivation of the cluster system, the Pakistan Humanitarian Fund closed its operations at the end of 2022.

2022 CBPF allocations to a range of actors




Benefiting from their country presence and extensive networks of partners, the CBPFs continued to support the best-placed responders to deliver coordinated, effective and efficient humanitarian action.

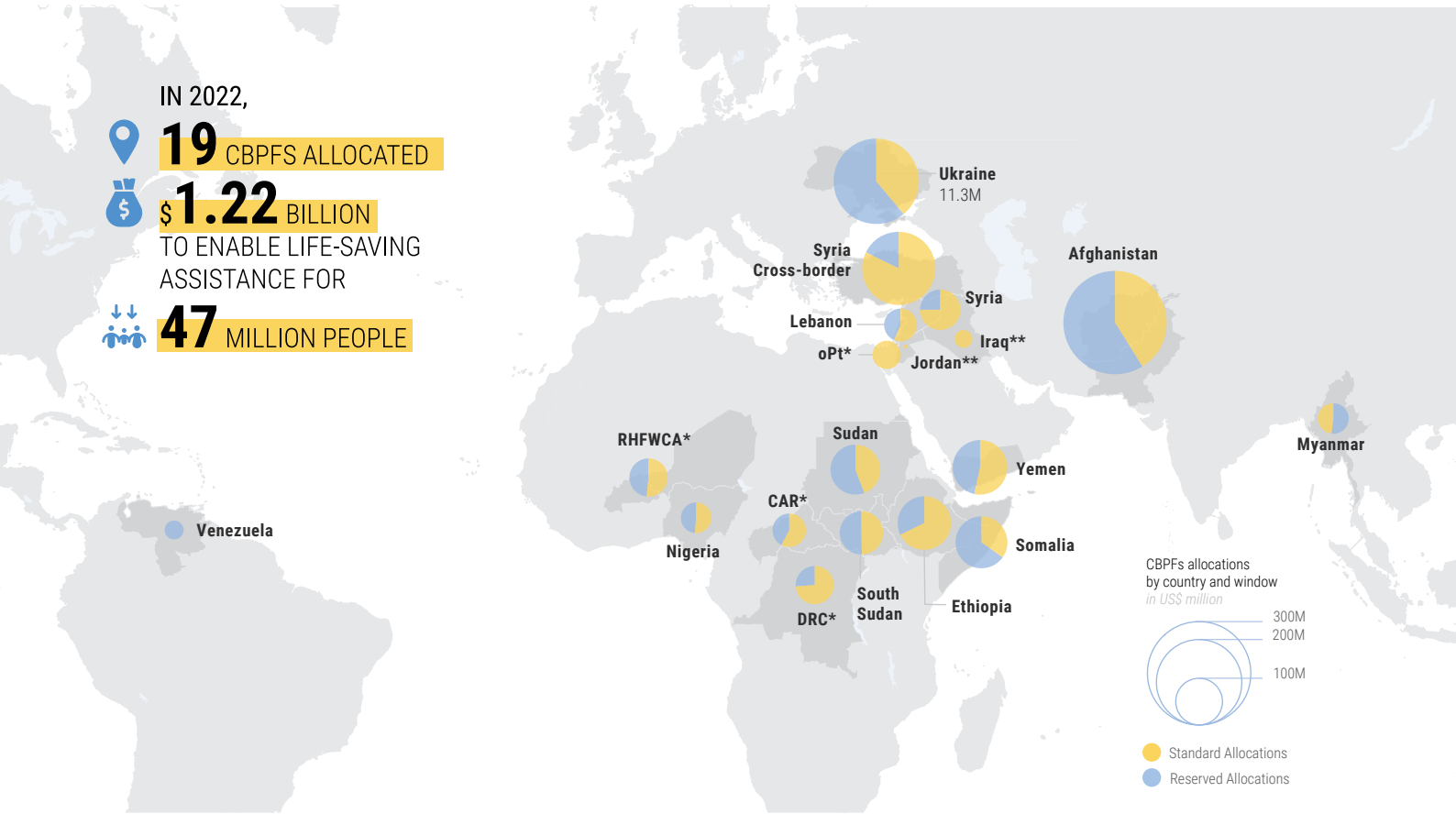
The CBPFs provided funding directly to a variety of local, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, and Red Cross/Red Crescent societies, taking advantage of their comparative advantages in relation to, for example, access, technical expertise and knowledge of local contexts. Of the \$1.2 billion allocated, \$540 million (44 per cent) went directly to international NGOs, \$339 million (28 per cent) to local and national NGOs, \$6 million to Red Cross/Red Crescent societies (1 per cent) and \$336 million (28 per cent) to UN agencies. In addition, \$96 million of CBPF funding was sub-granted to local organizations through partnerships with international NGOs and UN agencies. As a result, local organizations received \$441 million, 36 per cent of the total 2022 funding allocated by CBPFs. (see page 30)

2022 CBPF ALLOCATIONS BY PARTNER TYPE

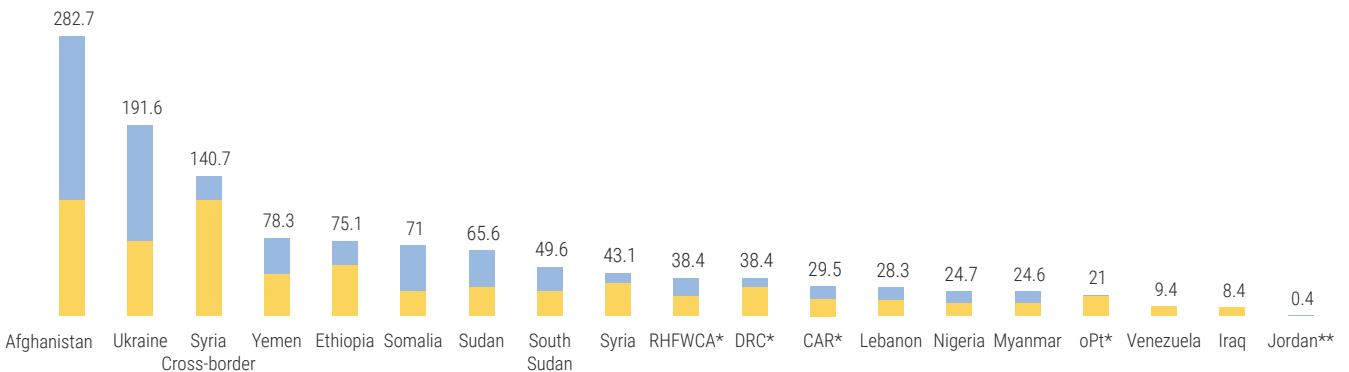


ALLOCATIONS AT GLANCE

IN 2022,
 **19** CBPFS ALLOCATED
 **\$1.22** BILLION
 TO ENABLE LIFE-SAVING
 ASSISTANCE FOR
 **47** MILLION PEOPLE



CBPFS allocations
by country and allocation type
in US\$ million



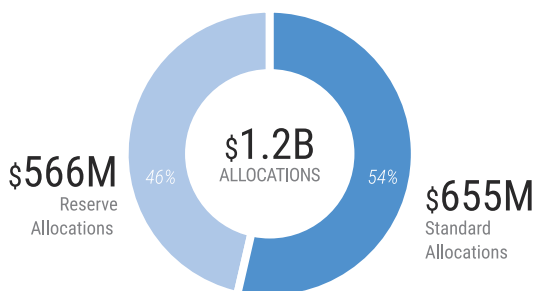
* CAR – Central African Republic
 DRC – Democratic Republic of the Congo
 oPt – occupied Palestinian territory
 RHWCA - Regional Humanitarian Fund for West and Central Africa
 ** closing

Strategic and flexible responses through the increased use of Reserve Allocations

The CBPFs employed a flexible mix of Standard and Reserve Allocations to achieve the right balance of inclusivity, speed, focus and customized processes for optimum results. Approximately \$655 million, 54 per cent of all 2022 CBPF funding, was channeled through comprehensive Standard Allocations open to all eligible partners. These allocations were used strategically to address key priorities and enhance the quality of response in protracted humanitarian situations. Another \$566 million, or 46 per cent of the total CBPF funding, was channeled through Reserve Allocations. These allocations were typically used to channel funding to partners quickly in response to new emergencies or a sudden deterioration of the situation, using lighter allocation processes available to preselected partners. With the CBPFs’ enhanced focus on flexibility, the Reserve Allocations were also used in protracted situations warranting a lighter and more targeted approach, to ensure a flexible and agile response. Although the allocation processes differ between the Standard and Reserve Allocations, the two modalities can be used interchangeably, and both are guided by a focused strategic intent to generate a clear added value.

For example, Reserve Allocations from the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (Sudan HF) played a critical role in enabling timely response to the eruption of intercommunal violence, floods and increased food insecurity, and supported people in protecting their homes, through the rapid allocation of \$38 million (60 per cent of total 2022 funding from the Sudan HF).

2022 CBPF ALLOCATIONS BY TYPE



The allocations enabled the best-placed responders to address the most critical needs and had a dedicated focus on supporting local and national NGOs. Meanwhile, against the backdrop of the protracted conflict, deteriorated socio-economic conditions and cholera outbreak, the SCHF made two Standard Allocations totaling \$110 million to respond to prioritized humanitarian needs. The allocations strengthened the self-reliance of displaced populations and communities hosting them, and had a specific focus on protection, gender equality and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP). The two allocations accounted for 78 per cent of the 2022 SCHF funding.

Assisting people before predictable crises

During the year, the CBPFs promoted anticipatory approaches to deliver critical assistance to people in need ahead of predictable hazards, thereby ensuring more efficient, effective and dignified humanitarian action. Several CBPFs capitalized on available forecasting and early warning mechanisms to support anticipatory and early action. The South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF), for instance, provided an anticipatory allocation of \$4 million in response to the predicted floods, to strengthen and rehabilitate critical infrastructure, such as dykes around vital access roads, to enable the delivery of life-saving supplies. This funding was complemented by a CERF anticipatory allocation of \$15 million that supported people to protect their homes and key community infrastructure, such as latrines and water wells. These allocations from the two Funds ahead of the flooding were credited by many humanitarian organizations as a key factor in keeping the volatile flood situation in South Sudan under control.

Meanwhile, the Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen Funds worked on country-level anticipatory action frameworks and are exploring ways to support pre-planned humanitarian responses when the pre-defined triggers are reached. The Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) committed an envelope of \$3 million to support the Yemen Anticipatory Action framework, should it be activated. Other Funds, such as DRC, Syria and Syria Cross-border, are also exploring formal anticipatory action frameworks with a view to expand it in the coming years.

Providing life-saving assistance in conflict situations

In 2022, conflict remained the main driver of humanitarian needs, accounting for the largest share of allocations from the CBPFs, with a total of \$866 million (71 per cent) – up from \$750 million in 2021.

In conflict-affected countries with CBPFs, the Funds demonstrated their ability to continue operating and supporting front-line responders in highly restrictive and volatile contexts. Their principled, needs-based allocations enabled partners to work across conflict lines and expand access to vulnerable groups in hard-to-access areas. The Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF), for instance, allocated \$23 million to address the needs of people affected by the ongoing conflict. The allocations had a specific focus on expanding access and supporting front-line responders, which helped the humanitarian community reach people in hard-to-reach underserved areas.

Responding to natural disasters and effects of climate change

Natural disasters and the effects of climate change were other major drivers of humanitarian needs in 2022 and accounted for the second-largest portion of CBPF funding.

A total of \$274 million (23 per cent) was provided for humanitarian action in response to natural and climate-induced disasters – up from \$166 million in 2021. The Somalia Humanitarian Fund (Somalia HF), for example, allocated \$71 million in response to the severe droughts in the country. The allocation of \$25 million in the first quarter of 2022 helped prevent a humanitarian crisis from worsening by enabling immediate support to communities critically affected by the drought in key hotspot locations. It also helped mitigate further drought-induced displacements. Later in the year when the risk of famine increased, the Somalia HF allocated another \$46 million to sustain and scale up the implementation of key life-saving operations and support area-based integrated response. The funding scaled up the response in Bay and Bakool districts, and enabled provision of life-saving assistance to critically affected people in underserved areas, such as Buur Hakaba, Hoby, Tayeeglow and Wajid.

Somalia. Providing basic water, sanitation and hygiene services to IDPs in Xabeeb IDP site, Cadaado district, Galguduud region. About 300 families are benefiting from the intervention. The project is implemented by the Center for Peace and Democracy, with support from the Somalia HF. Credit: OCHA/Ayub Ahmed



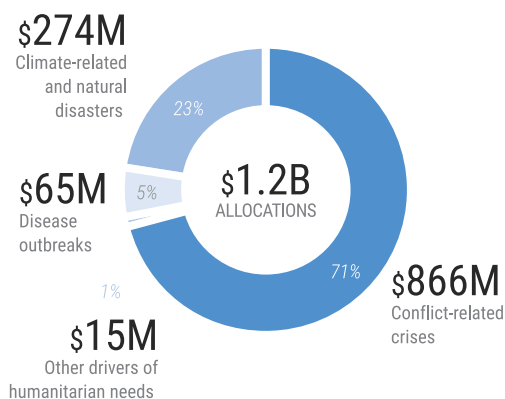
Enabling assistance in response to disease outbreaks

Disease outbreaks, notably cholera and other water- and vector-borne diseases, have been on the increase over the past years in most countries with recurrent humanitarian emergencies.³ In 2022, the speed and agility of CBPFs allowed them to respond to critical humanitarian needs resulting from major disease outbreaks. In total, \$65 million, or 5 per cent of total funding, was allocated for life-saving assistance to people affected by disease outbreaks. Among the most significant allocations in response to disease outbreaks was the cholera response funded by the Syria Humanitarian Fund (Syria HF). To address the immediate needs and prevent further spread of the disease, the Fund allocated \$7 million to enable urgent water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and health activities, including the rehabilitation of water networks and water stations, promotion of safe water usage and the provision of medication to the most vulnerable. With the allocation, the Fund strengthened preparedness through early detection, trained health personnel and enhanced laboratory capacity.

Addressing critical humanitarian needs resulting from severe economic disruptions

In addition to conflicts, disease outbreaks and natural disasters, the CBPFs provided \$15 million in response to the humanitarian consequences of severe economic disruptions and other drivers of needs in already fragile contexts. This included a \$4 million allocation from the Venezuela Humanitarian Fund (VHF) to address critical needs resulting from electricity shortages caused by the prolonged economic crisis. The allocation supported severely affected adolescents with food, health care, livelihood assistance and other life-saving support.

2022 CBPF ALLOCATIONS BY EMERGENCY TYPE



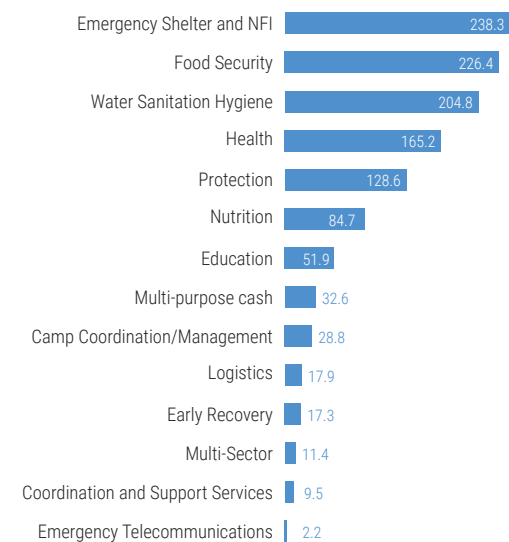
Enabling needs-based response

Across the 19 Funds, Emergency Shelter and non-food items (NFI), Food Security and WASH were the top-funded sectors/clusters in 2022, accounting for over half of CBPF allocations. With \$238 million, Emergency Shelter and NFI was the highest-funded sector in 2022. The total CBPF funding to the sector nearly doubled as compared to 2021. This was mostly driven by large allocations for humanitarian responses to conflicts in Afghanistan and Ukraine, which included immense requirements for shelters, warm clothing and blankets, due to severe winter conditions.

Food Security was the second-highest funded sector in 2022, with total allocations of \$226 million, followed by WASH, with \$205 million. This was largely driven by droughts and food crises. This was the case in Somalia, which was driven to the brink of famine by a confluence of severe drought, hunger and violence. In response, the Somalia HF allocated \$13 million for food assistance and \$21 million to ensure WASH activities in support of an area-based inter-sectoral response.

2022 CBPF ALLOCATIONS BY SECTOR

in US\$ million



3 <https://www.who.int/data/gho>

Improving humanitarian access

The CBPFs continued to support efforts to establish and maintain access, and overcome factors that inhibit the delivery of assistance, including bureaucratic obstacles, deteriorated infrastructure, and safety and security restrictions. The Funds expanded access to conflict-affected regions by supporting local organizations with access advantages, establishing humanitarian hubs, transporting humanitarian workers and relief supplies, and rehabilitating essential infrastructure to access affected people. For example, the RHFwCA played a pivotal role in improving access by targeting hard-to-reach and marginalized locations along the borders between Burkina Faso and Niger. Using the comparative advantage and the value added offered by local and national partners working in collaboration with community-based organizations and communities at large, \$38.4 million in funding from the RHFwCA made it possible to reach people with critical needs in previously inaccessible areas.

Cash and voucher assistance in CBPFs' projects

To advance the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian action and empower affected people to make their own choices about the assistance they need the most, the Funds continued to prioritize the use of CVA and MPC assistance when feasible. During the year, the Funds allocated \$188 million for CVA (including MPC), some 16 per cent of all funding allocated and a 6 per cent increase from 2021. Some 50 per cent (\$90 million) was allocated to international NGOs, and 30 per cent (\$55 million) to national NGOs for CVA programming. The AHF provided the highest level of CVA assistance, with \$74 million, followed by the UHF (\$40 million), YHF (\$13 million) and Somalia HF (\$11 million).

Beyond promoting flexible CVA, the Funds encouraged the use of MPC. The use of MPC offers people affected by crises the flexibility to decide how to meet their own needs. Of the \$188 million allocated for CVA in 2022, \$52 million was for MPC programming.



Somalia. New Ways Organization (NWO) health and nutrition staff providing services to IDPs. NWO, with support from the Somalia HF, has scaled up its response to reduce morbidity and mortality related to severe acute malnutrition through an integrated outpatient therapeutic feeding programme (OTP) among Yaaqshiid and Karaan IDPs and drought-affected host communities in Banadir region. Credit: NWO



\$188M
Transferred to people in need

▲ 162% increase compared to 2021

16%

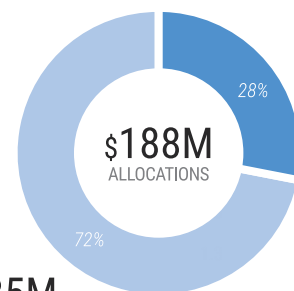
Of total CBPF funding dedicated to CVA

▲ up from 10% in 2021



All **19** CBPFs supported CVA

DISAGGREGATION OF CVA*



\$135M
Sector-specific cash

\$52M
Multi-purpose cash

Ukraine. ACTED team provides cash assistance in Dniepro.
Credit: ACTED



Cash assistance helps conflict-affected people buy what they need



We took only the essentials from Kharkiv. My husband lost his job, and I am on maternity leave – so we are short of money,” Olena explains.



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Eight years ago, Olena, 34, fled Donetsk city and settled in Kharkiv after the conflict began in eastern Ukraine. But, after the massive bombings in February 2022, Olena, her husband and two children had to shelter in a Kharkiv subway station for two weeks along with hundreds of other people.

“Everyone thought this horror would end in a few days, but weeks passed, and the children started to get sick. It was cold there, and with so many people in enclosed space, the viruses spread quickly,” says Olena.

Since February 2022, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) – with funding from the UHF – has provided over 4,000 people with cash grants.

With so many people on the move, demand for housing is high – and Olena and her family were lucky to find a village summer house. “We took only the essentials from Kharkiv. My husband lost his job, and I am on maternity leave – so we are short of money,” Olena explains.

Cash grants allow people to buy what they need – not what someone else thinks they need – and contribute to the local economy. With support from DRC, Olena was able to buy groceries and clothes, and pay some utility bills. She also bought paper and pencils for the children and internet connection for their online schooling.

ALLOCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Afghanistan



\$283 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 22 donors. Responding to the escalating conflict and drought, the AHF assisted 19M people (9.5M women and girls). In 2022, the AHF continued to demonstrate its added value and flexibility by providing critically needed resources and supporting several innovative approaches such as the unique Partner Cash Facility, constant or rolling allocations since 2021, localization of aid by supporting NGO capacity building, women-focused programmes, and supporting integrated allocations with bilateral donors.

Ukraine



\$192 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 30 donors. Responding to humanitarian needs resulting from the military invasion, the UHF assisted 3.1M people (1.7M women and girls). The UHF proved itself as an agile, flexible and dynamic tool in a quickly shifting humanitarian environment.

Syria Cross-Border

\$141 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 14 donors. Responding to the humanitarian needs of refugees and IDPs in north-west Syria, the SCHF assisted 2.9M people (1.5M women and girls). The Fund remains one of the most important sources of humanitarian financing for the region and has proved its ability to strengthen the resilience of communities when unforeseen emergencies occur.



Ethiopia



\$75 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 14 donors. Responding to the Tigray conflict and the severe drought, the EHF assisted 3.1M people (1.7M women and girls). The Fund strengthened its comparative advantage by focusing on three fronts: supporting localization, promoting effective and inclusive programming, and ensuring support to affected people in protracted conflict regions.

Yemen

\$78.3 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 25 donors. Responding to humanitarian needs caused by armed conflict, the YHF assisted 5M people (2.5M women and girls). In 2022, the YHF was instrumental in providing life-saving assistance and protection services, specifically in hard-to-reach areas.



South Sudan



\$49.6 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 11 donors. Responding to acute humanitarian needs caused by floods, conflict, hepatitis E virus (HEV) outbreaks and COVID-19, the SSHF assisted 1.1M people (550K women and girls). In 2022, the SSHF advanced localization, focusing on quantity of funding to local and national responders, and capacity development.

Somalia



\$71 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 10 donors. Responding to humanitarian needs caused by the worsening drought conditions and severe food insecurity, the Somalia HF assisted 1.3M people (800k women and girls). To maximize the Fund's impact, the Fund provided agile funding in high priority areas, supporting integrated response and advancing localization.

Sudan



\$65.6 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 8 donors. Responding to the multifaceted humanitarian situation in Sudan, the Sudan HF assisted 3M people (1.6M women and girls). The SHF supported collective prioritization, triggered anticipatory interventions and helped ensure timely allocation of scarce resources.

Syria



\$43.1 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 16 donors. Responding to the protracted crisis, continued economic decline, cholera outbreak, environmental shocks and internal displacement, the Syria HF assisted 1.6M people (900k women and girls). The Fund helped catalyze humanitarian access in Syria - especially in areas that are difficult to access.

West and Central Africa

\$38.4 million

allocated by the RHFWCA to Niger and Burkina Faso thanks to the generous support of 24 donors. Responding to transnational humanitarian issues in Niger and neighbouring countries, the RHFWCA assisted 1.9M people (800k women and girls). The allocations focused on cross-border areas and had a positive catalytic effect on the response and the interventions that put in place on the other side of the borders, notably in Burkina Faso, Mali or in Cameroon and Chad.



Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

\$38.4 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 8 donors. Responding to humanitarian needs resulting from escalating conflict and the volcanic eruption in Goma, the DRC HF assisted 1M people (600k women and girls). The Fund continued to support front-line humanitarian response efforts and serve as a catalyst to support local organizations.



Central African Republic

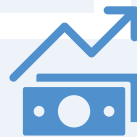
\$29.5 million

allocated thanks to the generous support of 8 donors. Responding to increased displacement after the intensification of conflict, the CAR HF assisted 500k people (150k women and girls). The fund responded to numerous emergencies differing in scale, nature and location and was able to act with agility to ensure timely and effective responses.



Lebanon

\$28.3 million allocated thanks to the generous support of 12 donors. Responding to the humanitarian crisis caused by economic disruption and the fuel crisis, the LHF assisted 300k people (150k women and girls). The LHF played a strategic role in promoting a coordinated needs-based response based on joint analysis conducted across operational frameworks present in Lebanon.



Nigeria

\$24.7 million allocated thanks to the generous support of 8 donors. Responding to increased displacement after the intensification of conflict, the NHF assisted 1.5M people (900k women and girls). The Fund was the primary source of rapid funding for emergency responses in the north-east of Nigeria and introduced innovative interventions to improve the humanitarian response.



Myanmar

\$24.6 million allocated thanks to the generous support of 12 donors. Responding to the needs of affected people after the military takeover, the MHF assisted 465k people (243k women and girls). In 2022, the Fund prioritized an area-based approach to improve access and localization by promoting multi-sectoral responses.



oPt

\$21 million allocated thanks to the generous support of 10 donors. Responding to unrest, insecurity and COVID-19, the oPt HF assisted 855k people (433k women and girls). The Fund continued to advance localization in the occupied territories, while also leveraging the comparative advantage of best-placed partners.



Venezuela

\$9.4 million allocated thanks to the generous support of 8 donors. Responding to a prolonged crisis caused by economic contraction and urban conflict, the VHF assisted 100k people (63k women and girls). The Fund advanced localization, promoted meaningful partnership and inclusion and increased direct funding to national and local organizations.



Iraq

\$8.4 million allocated thanks to the generous support of 6 donors. Responding to out-of-camp IDPs and vulnerable returnees in underserved areas, the IHF assisted 152k people (80k women and girls). With the closure of the Fund, the IHF focused on projects that include capacity strengthening components for national partners.



Jordan \$400k

allocated thanks to the generous support of one donor. Responding to the needs of marginalized Syrian refugees, was able to act with agility to ensure timely and effective responses.



CBPFs at the forefront of global response



AFGHANISTAN HUMANITARIAN FUND



\$283M
TOTAL 2022
ALLOCATIONS



19M
PEOPLE ASSISTED

With an unprecedented level of donor contributions of \$396 million in 2022, the AHF was instrumental in delivering life-saving assistance to 19 million people when and where it was needed the most. Despite the deteriorating operating environment, the AHF provided reliable financing to continue assistance and enabled a critical scale-up of the response.

AHF allocations rapidly increased from \$74 million in 2020, to \$165 million in 2021 and \$283 million in 2022, displaying the inbuilt agility and flexibility of CBPFs. The Fund has implemented several new strategic initiatives to improve quality programming and efficiencies.

For instance, with the onset of spring marked by flash floods, landslides and a deterioration in access to food, the AHF allocated \$60 million and \$123 million in March and April for life-saving response to strictly prioritized needs. The latter allocation was the biggest in the history of CBPFs.

The Fund used an innovative approach to rolling allocations, expediting the approval of new projects as new donor contributions were made. The allocations also had a catalytic effect on the broader response delivery because they included a specific focus on expanding access to underserved locations.

Other innovations included the unique AHF Partner Cash Facility, which unblocked cash flow and addressed liquidity challenges faced by many partners; NGO capacity-enhancement programmes focusing on WLOs and WROs, which supported localization of the response through training, mentoring and ongoing capacity development; and strengthened complementarity with bilateral and other funding mechanisms, which supported joint humanitarian, development and peacebuilding results.

AHF's timely responses in 2022, scale and adaptability, coupled with robust risk management, made the Fund nimble and fit for purpose in Afghanistan's dynamically changing environment.



REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN FUND FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA



\$38.4M
TOTAL 2022
ALLOCATIONS



2M
PEOPLE ASSISTED

Established in June 2021, the RHFwCA continued to expand its operations in 2022. Throughout the year, the Fund launched allocations for Burkina Faso and Niger at a total value of \$38.4 million, thereby bringing its total allocations since inception to \$51 million.

The Fund demonstrated its critical strategic value by ensuring that its 2022 allocations were guided by regional approaches and were developed simultaneously. This supported a coherent response to interconnected humanitarian issues, ensured synergies between country allocations and promoted cross-border collaboration.

For instance, RHFwCA allocations enabled a coherent multi-sectoral response to the humanitarian consequences of cross-border population displacement in the highly volatile and underserved tri-border area between Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

The Fund contributed to improving access to hard-to-reach areas through the establishment of strategic partnerships between international and local NGOs working in liaison with community-based organizations and communities at large. This allowed the humanitarian community to overcome many access restrictions resulting from security constraints and problems of acceptance.

As the Fund focused primarily on front-line response, all 2022 funding from the RHFwCA went to local, national and international NGOs, as well as the Red Crescent Movement. This funding was complemented by CERF allocations to UN agencies, which were mostly used for common services and procurement of supplies. These supplies, in turn, were distributed by a wide network of front-line partners, including RHFwCA-funded NGOs.

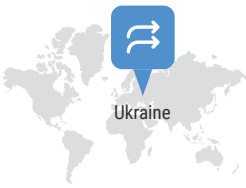
The Fund has been instrumental in promoting localization, with nearly one third of all funding allocated in 2022 going to local NGOs. In addition, the RHFwCA ensured strong involvement of local partners in the governance of the Fund, including through their representation in the Advisory Boards, their involvement in the development of allocation strategies and their representation in the project review committees. The strategic partnerships with international NGOs under the RHFwCA funding included a compulsory component of capacity strengthening for local NGO partners and sub-partners.

The RHFwCA also served as an entry point for the mainstreaming of cross-cutting thematic priorities such as the promotion of responses focused on gender, GBV, protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), community engagement, AAP and CVA. For instance, the Fund has enabled the establishment of an inter-agency community-based complaints mechanism in five humanitarian hubs in Burkina Faso.

Since RHFwCA is the only OCHA-managed regional funding mechanism, it includes a large learning component that informs the continued development of the Fund and potential applicability of the same model to other regions. Capitalizing on its agility and positive strategic contributions so far, the Fund is expanding its operations to Mali in early 2023, with the expectation that allocations for other countries in the region will follow.

Niger. Persistent insecurity in Niger has taken a toll on education. About 890 schools remain closed nationwide, affecting 77,919 students. Twenty-nine emergency education facilities are now being set up in Tillabéri, supported by the RHFwCA, through the ICAHD International NGO. Credit: OCHA/Laura Fultang





UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN FUND



\$192M
TOTAL 2022
ALLOCATIONS



3.1M
PEOPLE ASSISTED

Since the start of the military offensive on 24 February 2022, 3.1 million people received life-saving humanitarian assistance funded through the UHF.

The Fund demonstrated unparalleled responsiveness to a new context, expanding more than twelvefold from \$15 million allocated in 2021 to \$192 million in 2022. It was one of the largest and fastest sources of funding for life-saving response to the Ukraine conflict.

As the war began, the Fund responded immediately by allocating \$40 million in March and \$50 million in April. These allocations enabled the delivery of protection and life-saving support, such as medicines, food and relief items for an initial 3 million displaced people, and supported the expansion of assistance to newly affected regions. The allocations also included dedicated funding for telecommunications and logistics, which were essential for the system's ability to respond at large scale.

The Fund fast-tracked eligibility of new partners, while continuing to ensure adequate oversight. International NGOs eligible for funding from other OCHA-managed CBPFs received temporary eligibility to participate in allocations. This allowed the UHF to focus on eligibility assessments of local and national NGOs. As a result, the Fund quickly increased its partner base from 51 to 92, which allowed for a rapid scale-up of the response.

The Fund also introduced a contingency budget, which proved to be a valuable way of availing resources to partners for time-critical unforeseen responses. For instance, one of the partners used the contingency

budget to meet critical food requirements of people living in Kharkiv within a few days of the Ukraine Government regaining control of the area.

As the war escalated, the UHF made another two strategic allocations, of \$25 million in August to kick-start the implementation of the 2022-2023 Winterization Plan, and \$70 million in September to support top priority projects included in the new Flash Appeal. The latter included a \$20 million envelope dedicated to engaging small local organizations, including civil society associations, community-based organizations and volunteer groups, in the emergency response. Their involvement was strategically important because these organizations had access to hard-to-reach locations and ability to deliver contextually relevant assistance.

Since the war began, the UHF has responded with increased flexibility, allowing partners to easily re-programme projects and extend their implementation periods to rapidly address evolving needs. The Fund also prioritized the use of MPC because of the high mobility of affected people and their favourable access to stable markets, which gave them flexibility in meeting their basic needs and stimulated local economies.

Throughout 2022, the UHF was a critical enabler of life-saving response to the Ukraine crisis and made invaluable strategic contributions to the overall humanitarian system. The Fund enabled time-critical interventions, facilitated the scale-up of humanitarian operations, enhanced the coherence of the response and strengthened localization.



Adra, an NGO supported by the UHF, runs transportation and relocation operations.
Credit: OCHA/Matteo Minasi

People assisted with 2022 CBPF funding

In response to record needs in 2022, the CBPFs enabled partners to provide life-saving assistance to a record number of 47 million crisis-affected people in 19 countries – compared to 42.9 million in 2021. The Funds continued to help the humanitarian community support the most vulnerable and provided life-saving assistance for 24 million women and girls, 21 million children and 4 million people with disabilities.

In 2022, allocations from the 19 CBPFs enabled partners to deliver life-saving assistance to over 47 million crisis-affected people – the highest annual number in the history of the Funds. Throughout the year, the number of people in need grew as new conflicts emerged, extreme weather and climate-related events multiplied, and disease outbreaks continued. By the end of 2022, some 340 million people in 69 countries needed humanitarian assistance.

In 2022, most CBPF-funded projects contributed to gender equality. Overall, three-quarters of projects were designed to contribute to gender equality across different age groups (Gender Marker 4), in line with the previous year. For instance, the VHF assisted over 98,000 vulnerable people in 2022, 81 per cent of whom were women and children. The Fund had a specific focus on protection and sexual and reproductive health services. The VHF also provided \$4.2 million to WLOs and WROs and helped enhance the capacity of 17 such organizations.

Supporting women and girls

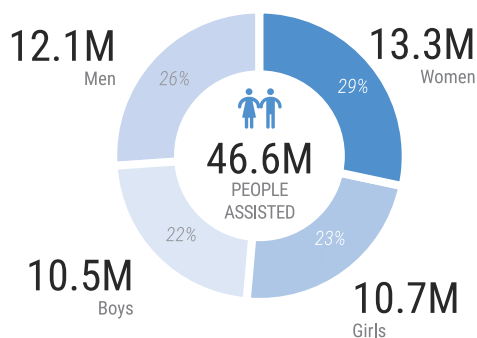
The Funds continued to promote effective, inclusive programming across all humanitarian interventions to ensure that assistance and services were accessible for the most vulnerable people. In 2022, most people targeted by the CBPFs were women and girls. Gender norms and pre-existing inequalities often mean that women and girls are disproportionately affected in crises. In line with recent years, 52 per cent of all people receiving life-saving support through the CBPFs were women and girls (24 million). The Funds also enabled life-saving support for about 21 million children under 18.

During the year, protection from and response to GBV also remained central to the Funds. More than \$57 million, 5 per cent of total CBPF funding, went directly towards the prevention of and response to GBV in 2022.⁴ The Democratic Republic of the Congo

⁴ Accurately estimating the amount of CBPF funding going to GBV prevention and response is difficult as activities are often mainstreamed within projects that have other primary objectives. The estimate provided here refers only to projects or project components dedicated to GBV prevention and response and is therefore likely to be significantly below the true amount. The introduction of the OneGMS platform will enhance tracking and analysis of this data.



PEOPLE ASSISTED WITH 2022 CBPF FUNDING BY SEX AND AGE



Mainstreaming gender considerations

Gender considerations are mainstreamed in all stages of CBPF programme cycle: strategy formulation, proposal development, application reviews, funding decisions, monitoring and reporting. The Funds collect sex- and age-disaggregated data on people assisted for all funded projects. All CBPF-funded projects are informed by a gender and age analysis, through the mandatory use of the GAM.

Afghanistan. Rahima could only afford renting a makeshift shelter without proper walls, windows, a door, or even a roof over their heads, as their interim home in Kandahar city. Credit: Danish Refugee Council



Dignified shelter for families trying to rebuild after war



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Thousands of families across Afghanistan who lost their homes during the recent hostilities are now struggling to restart their lives in new towns and cities, while others have returned home to houses that need repair or even rebuilding.

Not long after her husband was killed in mid-2021, Rahima*, a 35-year-old mother, left her home in Arghandab, a war-torn district of Kandahar in the South of Afghanistan. She was pregnant when her husband was killed. Widowed with a newborn baby and no income, it was no longer safe for her to remain.

The baby was 8 months old when she decided to pack up their few belongings and leave Arghandab. Rahima was certain that moving would be the only way to protect the family from immediate security threats, but their new situation brought new dangers. Rahima rented a small house in Kandahar city – but it wasn't safe; it had no proper walls, windows, or even a roof.

Meanwhile, Waheed*, 49, was bringing his family back to their home village in Maydan Wardak. They had left as fighting peaked in their area, and Waheed decided it was time to head home but years of fighting meant

their house and land were severely damaged.

The Danish Refugee Council's (DRC) shelter response, funded by the AHF, is supporting over 10,000 vulnerable people in Central, South and West Afghanistan to ensure access to safe, dignified and appropriate shelter, based on individual needs.

Through the programme, Rahima used cash to improve her makeshift home in Kandahar. She paid for a safe latrine so that they did not have to use the public one. Rahima also bought a small water tank to keep nearby. With the cash, Rahima was also able to cover medicine and transport costs to a health service provider for her son, who was suffering from mental illness.

Waheed used the cash support to repair his home – and received technical training on construction and structure maintenance.

While their situations remain difficult, the cash assistance helped Rahima and Waheed prioritize their families' needs and decide how best to improve their safety and well-being.

*Names have been changed

Humanitarian Fund (DRC HF), for example, allocated some \$12 million towards the prevention of and response to GBV. The Fund was the main source of funding for the GBV sub-cluster in the DRC in 2022, representing three-quarters of the total funds the sub-cluster received.



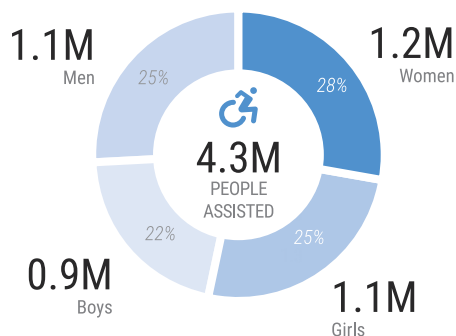
Supporting people with disabilities

In 2022, over 4.3 million people with disabilities, 9 per cent of all people assisted, benefited from life-saving support from the CBPFs, in line with 2021. In emergencies, people with disabilities are often among the most vulnerable because they are frequently less visible during the assessment phase and may struggle to access goods and services offered by relief organizations. By supporting inclusive needs assessments and influencing coordination mechanisms, the CBPFs play a significant role in lowering the barriers people with disabilities face in benefiting from humanitarian assistance and protection.

The Funds continued to work with partners to ensure that humanitarian action is adequately tailored to the needs of people with disabilities and warrants their protection, safety and dignity. The Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF), as an example, funded several programs specifically for children and the elderly with disabilities, providing specialized devices and supporting retention and integration of children with disabilities in regular education services. In total, the LHF assisted almost 55,000 people with disabilities. In 2022, focal points from NGOs working with people with disabilities participated in all project review committees to ensure disability inclusion is systematically considered as a strategic priority.

During the year, the CBPFs continued to support Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) to increase their engagement in CBPF processes, including through capacity enhancement and participation in project review committees. Among other, the UHF collaborated with the Health and Protection Clusters, as well as HelpAge International’s inclusion specialist, to develop partner guidelines to promote disability inclusion.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY ASSISTED WITH 2022 CBPF FUNDING (BY SEX AND AGE)



Enhancing the Pooled Funds’ efforts in responding to GBV, promoting gender equality and ensuring inclusion of persons with disabilities

In 2022, CBPFs continued implementing recommendations from the Contact Groups on gender and disability inclusion that were established by OCHA to advise on ways to strengthen these areas. During the year, guidance on gender, disability and GBV mainstreaming was updated as part of the process of revising the CBPF Global Guidelines. The inclusion of gender and disability expertise was added as a requirement in the composition of Advisory Boards and project review committees. In addition, scorecards used for prioritizing projects for funding were updated to include specific criteria related to gender and disability, making projects that adequately address these programming areas more likely to receive CBPF funding. OCHA also prepared to roll out a new online platform, the One Grant Management System (OneGMS), which allows for improved data tracking and analysis related to GBV, GAM, gender equality, PSEA and inclusion of persons with disabilities across the project portfolio.

In line with Grand Bargain commitments to advance women’ empowerment in humanitarian action, the Funds also continued efforts to support WLOs and WROs. This included training for WLOs and WROs to improve access to CBPF grants and other funding. OCHA’s Gender Action Plan includes the minimum target that 25 per cent of national NGOs receiving training on CBPFs should be WLOs/WROs. This target was reached in 2022 when 25.2 per cent of all trained national NGOs were WLOs/WROs. The highest numbers of WROs/WLOs were trained in Ukraine, Myanmar, Afghanistan and oPt.



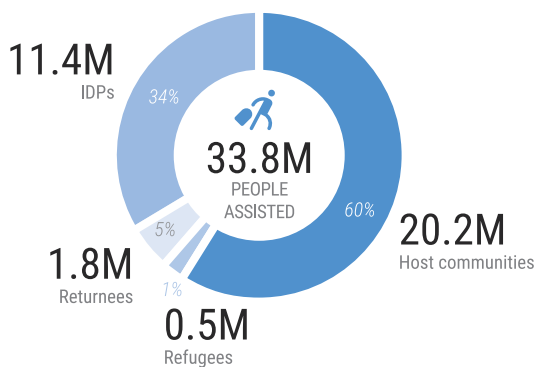
Responding to the needs of displaced people

In 2022, the CBPFs assisted almost twice as many forcibly displaced people as in previous years. The number of people displaced because of climate disasters, conflicts and violence – within their countries and internationally – reached over 103 million.⁵ In response, some 73 per cent (34 million) of all people assisted by the CBPFs in 2022 were affected by population displacement. Of these, almost 20 million were people from communities hosting displaced people, 11 million were internally displaced, almost 2 million were returnees and 500,000 were refugees. Three-quarters of displacement-affected people assisted by CBPFs in 2022 were women and children.

For example, against the backdrop of continued insecurity and government-mandated camp closures, the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF) provided \$13 million to ensure life-saving assistance for displaced people. As part of the allocation, the NHF created an “innovation” envelope of \$1 million to encourage creative solutions to strengthen localization, AAP and disability inclusion. While still in its inception, the pilot demonstrated the creative potential, particularly among national NGOs, to promote innovative solutions in a challenging environment. The innovations par-

5 UNHCR: <https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics>

2022 CBPF-FUNDED ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DISPLACEMENT



ticularly aimed to improve the independence, dignity and protection of displacement-affected people with disabilities through community engagement initiatives, localization, capacity building and an improved shelter construction project. The NHF plans to continue to allocate a small innovation envelope every year to encourage further “out-of-the-box” thinking and innovative solutions to humanitarian challenges.

Strengthening Accountability to Affected People

The Funds promoted the participation of affected people in all phases of the project cycle and through empowering communities to influence and determine the priorities of CBPF-funded projects. CBPFs also supported organizational and collective feedback mechanisms across the humanitarian landscape to collect and act upon the voices of affected people across gender, age, disability status and other diversity factors. CBPFs required that all people, including those with disabilities, should be able to access the collective feedback and complaint mechanisms.

In 2022, over three-quarters of all CBPF-funded projects included accessible and functional feedback mechanisms for affected people, while another 13 per cent partially included these mechanisms. For instance, all 144 projects funded by the Somalia HF included the accessible and functional feedback and complaint mechanisms. The Fund emphasized the involvement of the affected people in the entire project management cycle and added specific questions to project review score cards to ensure that AAP was adequately addressed in project design.

Methodology for calculating numbers of people assisted

The report uses the number of people targeted as a proxy for the number of people assisted. This approach allows for timely global reporting as the data on people reached only become available in the final project reports after the completion of project implementation. Analysis from the past years shows that CBPFs consistently reach the numbers of people planned. The reported numbers of people reached will be available on the <https://cbpf.data.unocha.org/> and the CBPFs will continuously monitor them.

Myanmar. Naw Phaw Hi's family with another family in Kaw Kat IDP Camp in Kyaikhto township of Mon State. Credit: Helvetas 2021.



Providing assistance to families displaced by conflict



This assistance helped my family and other families to get through this difficult situation,” Naw Phaw Hi explains.



Read more impact stories on [StoryHub](#)

Until July 2021, Naw Phaw Hi* and her three children lived in Kaw Kat village in Myanmar’s Mon State. She was the main breadwinner, as her husband had passed away.

When the conflict was reignited, Naw Phaw Hi and her children – along with all the residents of Kaw Kat village – were abruptly forced to leave their homes and move to a nearby displacement site to escape the fighting.

“We had to run away and leave behind everything because of the fighting in our area. We left our house and belongings and escaped from the village. I was not only worried about the safety of my children but also about how to find food and shelter,” says Naw Phaw Hi. Although they received support from relatives and friends, it was not enough to meet the family’s urgent needs.

The people of Myanmar continue to face an unprecedented political, human rights and humanitarian crisis that poses grave protection risks to civilians, limiting

access to vital services, including health and education, and driving deep food insecurity. The spread of conflict has driven unprecedented displacement, with the number of people displaced steeply increasing to 1.4 million at the end of 2022.

Helvetas Myanmar, with support from the MHF, launched a year-long project in July 2021 that provided food assistance, shelter, other relief items, and water and sanitation services to displaced people in Bilin and Kyaikto townships.

During the year, Naw Phaw Hi’s family received four packages – each including food, house supplies and other relief items.

“This assistance helped my family and other families to get through this difficult situation, especially during the rainy season. It took away some of my fears. I hope the situation will improve soon, and we will all be able to return to our native village,” Naw Phaw Hi explains.

*Name has been changed

Promoting localization

In 2022, CBPFs directly allocated funding to 342 local and national organizations, representing 42 per cent of all CBPF recipients during the year. These organizations directly received \$345 million, or 28 per cent of the total amount allocated by all Funds, exceeding the 25 per cent global benchmark set at the World Humanitarian Summit. Local and national organizations also received \$96 million in CBPF funding through sub-grants from international NGOs and UN agencies, bringing the total CBPF funding received by these organizations to \$441 million (36 per cent of the total 2022 allocations). Beyond increasing the quantity of funding, CBPFs focused on providing the quality of funding that matches the needs of local and national organizations, advancing their participation in the governance of the Funds, strengthening their capacity and increasing the visibility of localization.

Quantity of Funding

In 2022, the CBPFs strengthened efforts towards advancing localization to further capitalize on local and national organizations' access advantages, community acceptance, knowledge of local contexts and cost-effectiveness. The Global Guidelines that were revised in 2022 established localization as the secondary objective of the CBPFs. In 2022, HCs also set out strategies for advancing localization through the CBPFs, accompanying them in some cases, such as Syria and Yemen, with action plans including specific measures to be undertaken.

In 2022, the Funds continued to support front-line response to people with the highest needs, and often, the best-placed organizations to receive CBPF funding were local and national NGOs. During the year, 789⁶ partners received funding from CBPFs, of which 342 (43 per cent) were local organizations. These included local and national NGOs, as well as Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies.

While CBPFs encourage direct funding to reduce transaction costs and empower small organizations to autonomously implement projects, the Funds allow sub-granting arrangements if there is a clear rationale for it. Sub-granting allows smaller local organizations with limited capacity to participate in CBPF-funded response as sub-implementing partners.

NUMBER OF CBPF RECIPIENTS BY TYPE IN 2022

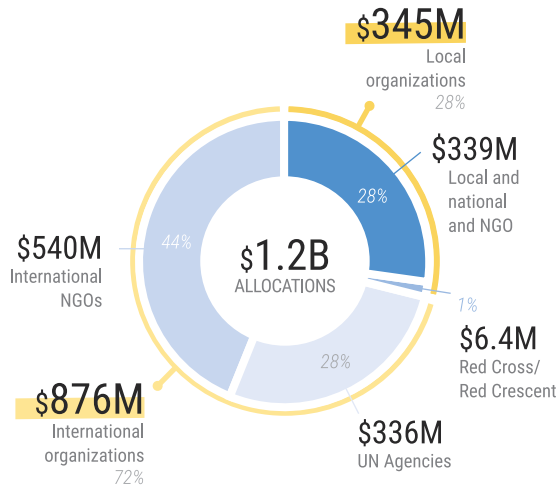


The CBPFs directly allocated \$339 million to local organizations, 28 per cent of the total amount allocated by all Funds in 2022, exceeding the 25 per cent global benchmark set at the World Humanitarian Summit.

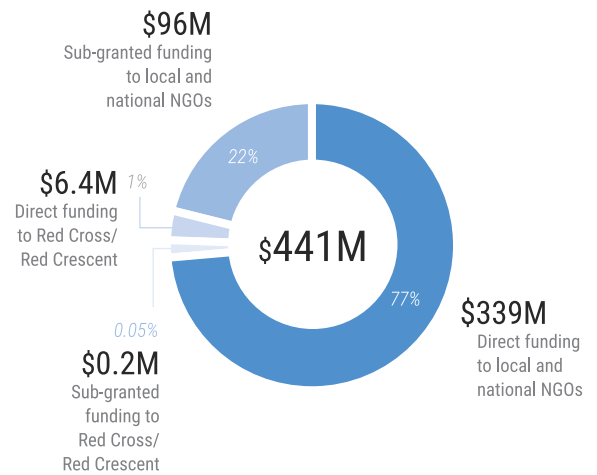
This demonstrates a continued increase since 2016 when 19 per cent of funding from the CBPFs went directly to local organizations. For instance, in Yemen, the local NGO Tamdeen Youth Foundation, funded by the YHF, rehabilitated five schools in hard-to-reach areas serving conflict-affected families and their host communities. The organization also provided essential school supplies to children and trained teachers in psychosocial support and other skills.

⁶ International partners are counted several times if they are partners to several CBPFs.

**2022 DIRECT
CBPF FUNDING BY
PARTNER TYPE**



**2022 DIRECT AND SUB-GRANTED CBPF FUNDING
TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS**



In addition to the \$345 million that local organizations received from CBPFs directly, local organizations received \$96 million of CBPF funding through sub-grants from international NGOs and UN agencies. This brought the total direct and indirect 2022 CBPF funding to local organizations to \$441 million, or 36 per cent of the total funding allocated by the Funds. For instance, Tinta Violeta, one of the local WLOs in Venezuela that received VHF funding as a sub-implementing partner of the international NGO COOPI, set up two temporary shelter spaces for referral of GBV cases and protection needs in hard-to-reach locations in Bolivar State.

Although localization is the secondary objective of all CBPFs, each Fund operates in a different operational context, which affects the extent to which it can engage with local organizations. For instance, the Somalia HF benefits from a vibrant civil society with a variety of well-established local organizations. In other contexts, such as Syria, local organizations face significant restrictions from the authorities and usually must wait several months to receive local permits for project implementation. This puts them at a disadvantage in being prioritized for funding from the Syria HF, especially in situations that require immediate humanitarian response. Hence, in 2022, the Funds continued a balanced approach to advancing localization, handling the associated risks and obstacles carefully.

As a result, the level of direct funding to local organizations varied from Fund to Fund depending on their operating contexts. For example, the Venezuela HF allocated nearly three-quarters of its 2022 funding to local organizations, with a major focus on WLOs and WROs, using their comparative advantages of access and community acceptance. Meanwhile, the MYF, Somalia HF and SCHF provided over 60 per cent of their allocations directly to local organizations.

Quality of funding

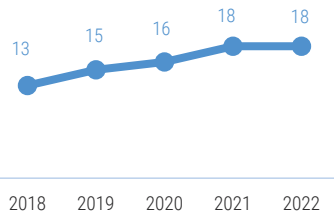
Beyond increasing the quantity of funding to local organizations, the Funds strengthened efforts in 2022 to ensure that the quality of CBPF funding matches the needs of these organizations. CBPFs are committed to providing adequate and fair support to local organizations, enabling them to accomplish jointly established objectives through constructive partnerships. This includes recognition of all necessary costs required to implement projects, such as adequate staffing, capacity development, and safety and security costs. It also includes sufficient budget flexibility, fair distribution of programme support costs to sub-implementing partners and a possibility of receiving multi-year funding.

Governance and partnerships

In addition to responding with funding allocated by the CBPFs, local organizations play an important role in the governance and decision-making processes of the Funds. At the global level, six NGOs, including two national NGOs (one of them a WLO), are represented in the PFWG alongside UN agencies and donors.

OCHA continued efforts to strengthen genuine, equitable and vocal participation of national and local partners in CBPF Advisory Boards, which resulted in these partners representing 18 per cent of all members in 2022, as compared to 13 per cent in 2018. During the year, there were 44 local and national NGOs represented on the Advisory Boards, including 24 WROs/WLOs.

NATIONAL AND LOCAL NGO REPRESENTATION IN CBPFs ADVISORY BOARDS



Local and national partners to the Funds also play a key role in the review of CBPF project proposals and selection of projects for funding. To this effect, in 2022, the Funds ensured balanced representation of various constituencies in review committees. A typical review committee included a sector/cluster coordinator, a local/national NGO representative, an international NGO representative, a UN agency representative, an OCHA staff member and a gender/disability advisor.

Capacity enhancement

Technical capacity for implementing and administering projects in accordance with the CBPF rules and regulations often limits many local organizations' ability to access CBPF funding. Accordingly, in 2022, the CBPFs undertook numerous measures to enhance the capacity of local partners. The Funds provided feedback to partners on their performance on various elements of CBPF processes, such as capacity assessments, proposal development, monitoring and financial spot-checks. The feedback allowed partners to enhance their capacity and improve their ability to meet CBPF requirements.

The Funds also conducted trainings and provided mentoring and outreach activities targeting current and potential partners. Throughout the year, the CBPFs provided trainings for more than 1,945⁷ local and national NGOs, of which more than 381 were WLOs and WROs. The trainings focused on proposal development, AAP, gender mainstreaming, the centrality of protection, disability inclusion, project management, financial management, monitoring, risk management and audits.

Communication and Visibility

In 2022 CBPFs increased the visibility of advancing localization. The new Global Guidelines commit all Funds to support visibility of local and national partners implementing CBPF funding. This includes raising the profile of CBPF projects implemented by local and national partners through donor and other high-profile visits; supporting the production and dissemination of impact stories and related materials from local organizations; highlighting achievements of local and national actors in Annual Reports and other information products; and providing sufficient budget for developing partners' visibility materials in relation to the projects funded.

⁷ This figure counts organizations several times if they received several rounds of trainings.



Syria. Heaters funded by the SCHF were delivered and installed by NGO workers from Sadad Organization in two schools in Idlib. Credit: OCHA/Abdul Aziz Qitaz

Leveraging complementarity of OCHA Pooled Funds

In addition to the CBPFs, OCHA also manages CERF. While each fund has its own unique attributes, they both provide rapid, flexible resources fostering coherent and coordinated response under the leadership of the RC/HC.

In 2022, \$512 million, or 70 per cent of CERF funding, went to 16 countries with CBPFs, including \$44 million in countries covered by the Regional Humanitarian Fund. When CERF and CBPF resources are provided to the same contexts, RC/HCs ensure that the resources are used in a complementary and coherent manner.

At the country level, the RC/HCs decide how best to use these different funding instruments based on the comparative advantage of each, as part of an integrated approach. OCHA helps RC/HCs translate this vision into allocation strategies, ensuring coherence and that funding is used to achieve the greatest overall impact – a continuing priority for OCHA and its partners.

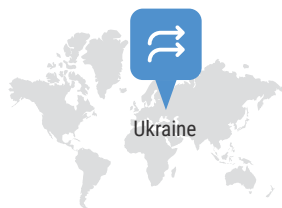
While each context is unique, the following principles underpin joint CERF–CBPF allocation strategies:

- » **Complementary sequencing:** CERF and CBPF allocations can be used to support different phases of an emergency response, allowing for continuity in the scale-up of critical humanitarian services.
- » **Complementary sectoral focus:** Informed by each Fund's comparative advantage, CERF and CBPF allocations can be designed to address needs in different sectors, to achieve the desired programmatic coverage and support a comprehensive intersectoral response.
- » **Complementary geographical targeting:** Informed by timing, scale and the operational presence of different partners, CERF and CBPF allocations can be designed to target different geographical locations, to achieve the geographic coverage necessary to meet the needs of the most severely affected communities.
- » **Complementary partnerships:** CERF and CBPF allocations can be designed to provide funding to different types of recipient organizations in a way that best addresses the overall humanitarian situation, with CBPFs typically providing most of their funding to a wide network of front-line national and international NGO partners, and CERF focusing on fewer, large-scale grants for the response requirements of UN agencies.
- » **Common promotion of system-wide priorities:** CERF and CBPF allocations can be used together to reinforce consideration of, and attention to, key themes, cross-cutting issues and good practices recognized by the wider humanitarian community as important to the quality of aid.

Kherson, Ukraine. With support from the UHF, CERF and other donors, WHO delivered life-saving medical supplies to Kherson just days after the Government of Ukraine regained control of the city.
Credit: OCHA/Oleksandr Ratushniak



Following are two examples from 2022 of complementary use of CERF and CBPF resources that strengthened the humanitarian responses.



Ukraine: Ensuring an urgent and comprehensive response

In Ukraine, under the leadership of the RC/HC, funding from CERF and the UHF jointly enabled immediate and comprehensive life-saving humanitarian response. CERF and UHF resources were allocated in support of different recipients – the UHF supporting local and national NGOs, and CERF supporting UN agencies, in line with the comparative advantages of the two Funds.

Prior to the war, the UHF was a relatively small Fund, with total allocations in 2021 of \$14.8 million. At the onset of the crisis in February 2022, and given the small size of the UHF, CERF resources helped jump-start the humanitarian response by allocating an initial \$20.5 million on the day of the invasion. This funding enabled food, health, shelter, and water and sanitation assistance for nearly 1 million people affected by the hostilities in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts.

With the speedy increase in donor support to the UHF, the Fund launched a Reserve Allocation of \$41 million in March, in a way that complemented the initial CERF funding and ensured a critical scale-up of the

response across the country. Most of the UHF funding supported front-line responders, including international, national and local NGOs, WLOs, small civil society organizations, community-based organizations and volunteer groups. The complementary CERF and UHF funding enabled a fast and comprehensive response by the UN agencies and NGOs in hard-to-reach areas, including in the eastern and southern regions, which were most severely affected by conflict.

This was further accompanied by another \$40 million allocation from CERF to target UN agencies and to advance the bulk procurement of critical relief supplies and the implementation of large cash assistance and protection programmes.

Together, CERF and the UHF provided a total of \$252.1 million to address the humanitarian consequences of war in Ukraine in 2022 (\$60.5 million by CERF and \$191.6 million by the UHF). The complementary allocations strengthened the humanitarian efforts at the country and community levels and ensured fast, agile and comprehensive responses and life-saving assistance to more than 4 million people.



Containing the cholera outbreak

When cholera broke out in Lebanon on 6 October 2022, the RC/HC used CERF and the LHF funding simultaneously to ensure a swift and comprehensive response. Lebanon was fundamentally ill-equipped to deal with a potentially deadly and sustained outbreak due to a nearly completely dysfunctional public water and sanitation infrastructure coupled with an overburdened health system.

Since the onset of the outbreak, the RC/HC pursued a joint CERF/LHF allocation strategy to take maximum advantage of the comparative strengths of the two Funds. Accordingly, CERF was used to fund UN agencies to enable countrywide activities that required close coordination with government counterparts, while the LHF was used to fund NGOs in support of community-level response.

A \$5 million Rapid Response allocation from CERF focused on the core issue: ensuring that water pumping

stations continued operating and providing access to clean water countrywide. CERF also supported cholera treatment centres, scaling up of the national cholera vaccination campaign and covering hospitalization costs of the most seriously affected people.

This funding was complemented by \$4.5 million provided by the LHF to a well-established network of national and international front-line responders. These organizations focused on delivering community-level activities in the highest-risk densely populated areas, ensuring water safety and support to select cholera stabilization centers.

The complementary use of CERF and LHF funding enabled a quick and coherent multi-partner response at the country and community levels, which led to the containment of the outbreak. The response enabled life-saving support to an estimated 1.5 million people at heightened risk of exposure to cholera.

Fund performance in 2022

OCHA measures the performance of all CBPFs against a common performance framework, which is underpinned by five key principles guiding the management of the Funds: **inclusiveness, timeliness, flexibility, efficiency, and accountability and risk management**. The framework includes a set of indicators that illustrate how each Fund performs in relation to global policies and standards and is customized to the operating context of each Fund. Details for each Fund are found in their respective 2022 Annual Reports (insert link). This section provides highlights for all Funds collectively.

Inclusiveness

Local and national NGO partners play an important role in the governance and decision-making processes of the Funds. At the global level, six NGOs, including two local/national NGOs (one of them a WLO), are represented in the PFWG alongside UN agencies and donors.



Switzerland is a strong advocate of CBPFs. We appreciate that these unearmarked funds support humanitarian action that is locally led, thus giving local actors access to funds to assist their own communities facing crisis or conflict. For quick and effective life-saving responses, CBPFs play a crucial role in fragile contexts.

*Barbara Dätwyler Scheuer,
Head of Multilateral Humanitarian Affairs,
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Co-Chair of the Pooled Fund Working Group (PFWG).*

At the country level, a broad range of humanitarian partner organizations is represented on the Advisory Boards of the Funds. OCHA's continued efforts to strengthen genuine, equitable and vocal participation of local and national NGOs in Advisory Boards, has resulted in their representation increasing to 18 per cent of all members in 2022, as compared to 13 per cent in 2018. During the year, there were 44 local and national NGOs represented on the Advisory Boards, including 24 WLOs/WROs. Through their participation in the Advisory Boards, local and national NGOs are engaged in the consultations on articulating the strategic vision for each Fund and on the development of strategies for specific allocations.

Local and national NGOs also play a key role in the review of CBPF project proposals and selection of projects for funding. To this effect, in 2022, the Funds ensured balanced representation of various constituencies in the proposal review committees. A typical review committee included a sector/cluster coordinator, a local/national NGO representative, an international NGO representative, a UN agency representative, an OCHA staff member and a gender/disability advisor.

An expansive and diverse network of partners enables the CBPFs to allocate funding to best-placed actors, leveraging their comparative advantages. In 2022, CBPFs further broadened engagement with local and national NGOs, WLOs, WROs and OPDs. By the end of April 2023, there were 2,387 partners eligible to receive CBPF funding, including 1,284 local and national NGOs, 1,084 international NGOs⁸ and 19 UN agencies.

⁸ International NGOs are counted several times if they are partners to CBPFs in several countries.



2022 PROJECT
REVISIONS

698

PROJECTS
RE-PROGRAMMED
ONCE

244

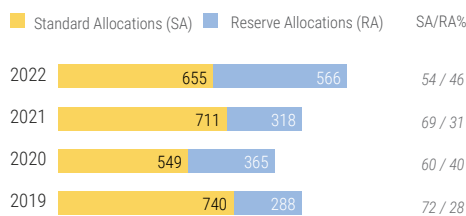
PROJECTS
RE-PROGRAMMED
MORE THAN ONCE

Flexibility

In 2022, OCHA further enhanced the flexibility of the Funds to ensure that they are fit for purpose and able to operate in dynamic and constantly evolving contexts. In 2022, the CBPFs applied Standard and Reserve Allocation modalities with more flexibility than in previous years. While Standard Allocations are typically bigger, more comprehensive and inclusive of all eligible partners, Reserve Allocations are usually smaller, quicker and can be narrowed to pre-selected partners.

In 2022, an increasing number of Funds used the Reserve Allocation modality to allocate larger proportions of their funding when the circumstances warranted quicker and more targeted responses. Nearly half of all 2022 CBPF funding was allocated through Reserve Allocations, as compared to 28 per cent in 2019, which increased the flexibility of the Funds and led to more strategically focused allocations.

STANDARD VS. RESERVE ALLOCATIONS 2019 – 2022



The CBPFs also ensured adequate flexibility for implementing partners, which allowed them to adjust the projects during the implementation and thereby tailor the response to evolving needs. Since CBPFs operate in dynamically changing environments, the Funds make it easy for partners to review projects after they are funded if the changing context demands it. Partners can submit project revision requests online at any time during the project implementation. The CBPFs put specific emphasis on processing the requests timely, while ensuring strict quality control warranting good project performance. In 2022, 942 projects were re-programmed, which included 244 projects that were re-programmed more than once.

The Funds offer additional flexibility measures to partners if the nature of a crisis demands it. For instance, the UHF facilitated some project revisions over the phone to enable quick re-programming. This gave enough flexibility to partners to immediately respond to sudden critical needs.

In addition, CBPFs continued to promote flexible programming through increased use of CVA and MPC to ensure that people in need have flexibility to make their own choices about the assistance they need the most and to advance the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian action. In 2022, CBPFs enabled the transfer of \$185 million in CVA (including MPC), and CVA transfers accounted for 16 per cent of total CBPFs funding, up from 10 per cent in 2021.

Timeliness

The CBPFs continuously strive to ensure timely allocation processes. This includes making allocations ahead of predictable hazards to enable anticipatory and early action; launching allocations immediately following sudden onset emergencies to enable rapid response; and making allocations at the right time to achieve strategic advantages in the implementation of ongoing operations.

The shift towards allocating more funding through Reserve Allocations than in the past years largely speeded up the average duration of allocation processes because Reserve Allocations are lighter and faster than Standard Allocations. Due to the complexity and variety of humanitarian situations, timeliness of allocations is difficult to measure through a unified methodology across all Funds. However, once the allocations are completed, CBPFs use the speed of disbursements⁹ as a key performance metric to ensure that funding is delivered to partners timely. In line with 2021, the average disbursement speed across all Funds in 2022 remained within the 10-day target (9.5 days under Standard Allocations and 9.9 days under Reserve Allocations).

⁹ Average number of working days from the signature of the grant agreements to the first disbursement.

HFU MANAGEMENT
COSTS AGAINST
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS

\$38.7M

HFU MANAGEMENT
COSTS
(3% OF TOTAL
ALLOCATIONS)

\$1.2B

TOTAL
ALLOCATIONS

Efficiency

In 2022, the CBPFs continued to ensure value for money by efficiently discharging their functions with minimum operational costs. The total cost of operating OCHA's Humanitarian Financing Units that administer the CBPFs at the country level was just 3 per cent of the total amount allocated by these Funds. In 2022, the operating costs of the Humanitarian Financing Units enabled, among other, the 19 Funds to offer critical strategic value to the humanitarian operations through principled, timely, coordinated and coherent response delivered by 789 national and international partners. Among other key functions, these costs also enabled grant management, including managing contracting, disbursements, interim and final financial reports, interim and final programmatic reports, monitoring missions, financial spot-checks and audits¹⁰ of all projects funded by CBPFs in 2022.

Accountability and risk management

In 2022, the Funds worked with partners to achieve humanitarian objectives while at the same time mitigating and managing risks. The Funds safeguarded the limited resources for humanitarian action through robust partner eligibility requirements, risk-based grant management, comprehensive oversight of the project portfolio and rolling appraisal of partner performance.

For instance, in 2022, the CBPFs assessed the capacity of 329 organizations that applied for eligibility for CBPF funding and accepted 193 organizations as new partners. Despite often restrictive operating environments and access restrictions, the Funds performed 1,684 monitoring missions, meeting 95 per

¹⁰ Grant management requirements are defined by the operational modalities of each Fund and vary depending on a project's risk level, duration and budget.



The Republic of Korea is proud to have contributed to CBPFs to provide the most vulnerable communities and people in crisis with rapid humanitarian assistance for many years, and will continue to remain a strong supporter of the Funds.

WON Doyeon,
Director-General for Development Cooperation of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Won Do-yeon

cent of 2022 project monitoring requirements and 975 financial spot checks meeting 91 per cent of requirements. Moreover, the CBPF reviewed and followed up on 1,304 narrative project reports and 1,277 financial project reports, meeting 96 per cent of requirements for these reports respectively.

CBPFs continued to progress in strengthening risk management. In 2022, OCHA revised its “non-compliance framework”, which supports the Funds in distinguishing between credible suspicions of partner fraud and weak internal management systems. All incidents of potential fraud by the partners are managed in accordance with OCHA's Standard Operating Procedures, which ensures a consistent approach across all Funds in the management and treatment of fraud incidents.

The CBPFs also continuously adjusted the risk levels of partners based on their performance on project implementation and management. The partner risk levels, in turn, defined budget limits and informed the risk management activities per each project. More information about risk management can be found in chapter Commitment to Risk Management. (see page 42)

Governance of CBPFs



Switzerland is a strong advocate of CBPFs. We appreciate that these unearmarked funds support humanitarian action that is locally led, thus giving local actors access to funds to assist their own communities facing crisis or conflict. For quick and effective life-saving responses, CBPFs play a crucial role in fragile contexts.

*Barbara Dätwyler Scheuer,
Head of Multilateral
Humanitarian Affairs,
Swiss Agency for
Development and
Cooperation (SDC)*

Launch of the revised Global Guidelines

In 2022, the CBPFs made significant progress in strengthening their governance, with the launch of the revised CBPF Global Guidelines as a major milestone. The revised guidelines will be instrumental in ensuring a cohesive and harmonized approach to the governance and operations of the CBPFs. They supersede the 2017 Operational Handbook and introduce important changes to the management of the Funds, strengthening the strategic nature of allocations and promoting programming approaches that reflect and advance system-wide priorities. The guidelines ensure that the CBPFs have the flexibility and adaptability to operate effectively in different settings, while ensuring consistent and transparent processes that meet minimum requirements and standards.

The revised Global Guidelines reflect changes in the humanitarian response and the evolving needs of affected communities.

The revision process included comprehensive consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, including donors, operational partners, the Funds' Advisory Boards, the PFWG and OCHA staff. It drew on recommendations from the [Global Evaluation of CBPFs](#), the [joint study undertaken by NRC and OCHA on the Perspectives of NGOs](#), learning from the adoption of COVID-flexibility measures, and working sessions with the PFWG and the CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform.

The rollout in 2023 includes an update of the **Operational Manual** for each Fund in consultation with in-country stakeholders, a range of orientation and training activities with different stakeholders, and customization of the online Grant Management System (GMS).

The Pooled Fund Working Group

In 2022, the PFWG continued to inform the strategic direction and management of CBPFs through a series of virtual and in-person meetings. These included consultations on the new Global Guidelines, discussion of priorities and reflections on specific themes, including visibility for donors and operational partners, as well as lessons learned from the RHFVCA. In June, donor representatives of the PFWG conducted a mission to gain exposure to the work of the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF), engaging with its leadership, partners, affected communities, authorities and staff from OCHA's County Office. The mission strengthened familiarity with achievements, opportunities and challenges in the country context, including on important topics such as localization and synergies between humanitarian and development actors.

In mid-2022, Switzerland took over from Canada as the donor co-chair of the PFWG.

Canada's tenure was crucial for ensuring collective focused efforts on the revision of the Global Guidelines. As the new co-chair, Switzerland identified strengthening the CBPFs contribution to localization as a key priority, along with improved visibility and broadening the CBPFs' donor base. During the Global Pooled Fund Managers Workshop (GPFMW),¹¹ Switzerland led an inclusive and participatory session on localization to explore solutions to challenges and strengthen partnerships.

¹¹ Every year the Fund Managers of the CBPFs come together with colleagues from Headquarters at the GPFMW, to promote a common understanding of OCHA's vision for CBPFs and determine actions for implementation of key strategies and priorities. The 2022 GPFMW was conducted in Geneva, Switzerland from 30 October to 4 November 2022.

REVISION OF THE GLOBAL GUIDELINES:



Define localization as a secondary aim for the Funds.

While the Funds maintain their primary life-saving goal, the Guidelines also capture their leading role in advancing localization, strengthening the role of local and national actors, including WLO/WROs, in governance and the delivery of aid.



Advance the quality of aid and define “Effective Programming” areas where each Fund adds value,

enhances system change and stimulates new ideas and transformation in the Funds and the wider humanitarian system. This aims to reinforce efforts on protection, GBV, gender equality, the inclusion of persons with disabilities, CVA, humanitarian access, anticipatory action, complementarity with CERF and AAP. In line with the recommendations of OCHA’s thematic Contact Groups, the Guidelines require that gender and disability inclusion experts take part in Advisory Boards and project reviews.



Strengthen the articulation of the HC’s vision for each Fund.

Providing an opportunity for HC’s to set out their intended use of the Funds, and the distinctive added values that they can provide in a given context. This includes setting out their goals for localization and for improving the quality of aid. The vision for each Fund sets out how it will shape the humanitarian response and advance system-wide priorities under the HC’s leadership.



Introduce strategic statements for each allocation,

outlining why the allocation is appropriate at a particular time, and the added value that addressing needs through the Fund will bring in terms of system improvements and quality of the wider response.



Introduce “Regionally Hosted Pooled Funds” as a new

vehicle for supporting agile and coherent approaches to regional emergencies, cross-border collaborations and synergies between country-specific actions.



Strengthen Fund risk management processes, including effective screening processes

to prove partner eligibility and assess performance, improve feedback mechanisms to support partners’ systems and control measures, and implement enhanced procedures for handling incidents related to misconduct, including fraud and SEA.



Enhance financial management procedures,

including greater flexibility in project budgets, delegating greater authority for financial clearances to Country Offices, and introducing a risk-based approach to project and partner audits.



Introduce provisions on Fund resource mobilization and communications,

including visibility and reporting, to acknowledge donor contributions and to mobilize greater support to the Funds.

The CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform

In 2022, the CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform continued to provide valuable support for coordination, outreach and communication across the NGO community on matters related to the CBPFS. The Platform ensures inclusive civil society representation in the PFWG through an Advisory Group consisting of six NGO representatives, including two local partners (one of them a WLO). OCHA and a rotating NGO co-chair facilitate regular consultations across the Platform and compile and synthesize the views of the wider NGO community vis-à-vis the Funds. In 2022, Save the Children continued to serve as the co-chair after taking over from Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) in 2021. During the year, the Platform was vital in shaping the discussion on localization and the related revision of the Global Guidelines. In addition, regular briefings throughout the year were organized to update the CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform on major emergency responses, including the efforts of the Ukraine and Afghanistan Humanitarian Funds.



We welcome the inclusion of localisation as a goal of the CBPFS. Acknowledging the key role that local and national NGOs play across all the Humanitarian Funds is not only fair but a necessary step. With more and better funding, a direct say in decision-making processes, appropriate support and visibility of their contributions, national and local organisations will be able to make an even greater contribution to the effectiveness, relevance and impact of CBPFS.

Fernando Espada, Head of Humanitarian Affairs, Save the Children, and co-chair of the CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform

IN-COUNTRY FUND GOVERNANCE

Humanitarian Coordinators

The HCs act as the custodians of the CBPFS on behalf of the USG/ERC. Leadership of the CBPF is highlighted in the annual HC/ERC Compact. The HCs ensure that the Funds deliver against their key objectives and are managed in accordance with Global Guidelines. The HCs are supported by the Advisory Boards and OCHA and engage with the full range of Fund stakeholders, including donors and partners.

Advisory Boards

Advisory Boards support the HCs in articulating the strategic vision of each CBPF, ensuring the strategic nature of allocations, promoting the Funds and supporting resource mobilization, managing risks and overseeing performance. The Advisory Board has a consultative role, ensuring that the HC is informed by the views of donors, UN agencies, local and national NGOs, international NGOs, WLOs and technical experts. In support of inclusive programming, the Advisory Boards include gender and disability inclusion expertise.

Review Committees

Review Committees are responsible for assessing the design of project proposals and recommending for funding those that are deemed to best support the delivery of allocation strategies. The Committees are established through a consultative process with the in-country coordination mechanisms and include subject matter experts. They include balanced representation of UN agencies and local, national and international NGOs.

Commitment to risk management

In 2022, OCHA continued to invest in risk management, making constant enhancements to strengthen accountability and oversight, in line with the strong reputation it has built for risk-based management of CBPFs. With increased donor contributions and a stronger drive for localization, OCHA took significant steps to enhance tools, policies and capacities to ensure potential risks that could affect the organization's ability to deliver aid are effectively managed. These efforts demonstrate OCHA's commitment to ensuring the effective and efficient use of donor funds, and to managing risks and promoting accountability in its pooled fund operations.

Strengthened risk prevention tools and policies

OCHA continued to strengthen/broaden its risk prevention work. Lessons learned from assurance activities, such as project audits, field monitoring and financial spot checks, were used to improve existing processes, tools and systems.

For instance, the eligibility process for vetting new organizations wishing to become OCHA's partners has been made more comprehensive and efficient. This includes enhanced internal guidance to OCHA staff on best practices for managing the process, and pre-screening against minimum requirements prior to investing in a full partner capacity assessment. Where such requirements are not met, this includes feedback to support preparation for future re-application for eligibility. In addition, monitoring and financial spot-checks tools have been reviewed for improved, early detection of potential risks and to ensure that project implementation remains on track.

OCHA also continued to provide refresher training and shared best practices with staff on prevention of financial and sexual misconduct involving partners. Sessions were held with partners in country, raising awareness on policies and procedures.

Enhanced Response to Misconduct

OCHA made significant strides in enhancing response to financial and sexual misconduct. OCHA revised its "non-compliance framework", which supports the Funds in better distinguishing between potential fraud and systems weaknesses, and in determining appropriate steps with partners to address concerns in a timely manner.

In addition, OCHA reinforced its relationship with the United Nations Office for Oversight Services in conducting investigations. As a result, timelines for case management have improved and most historical cases moved to administrative closure.

Strengthened Risk Management Capacity

OCHA strengthened its risk management capacity at the global and local level. CBPFS operating in more complex settings now have dedicated Compliance Officers. This has helped improve the detection and analysis of potential cases of concern related to fraud and SEA, while strengthening risk management tools, enhancing partner engagement, educating partners on grant management processes from a risk perspective, and raising awareness of standards and responsibilities. The Compliance Officers also work closely with HQ to strengthen prevention and management of misconduct cases and to provide troubleshooting assistance to partners as appropriate.

In terms of system enhancement, an “inquiry module” was introduced in the GMS in 2022, improving the way case management data and information is captured and linked to corresponding projects.

Following the outcome of an inquiry, the module facilitates capturing of financial transactions and the closure of projects linked to a particular case.



Yemen is one of the world’s worst humanitarian crises, and the Kuwait Fund is proud to fund the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), which has been delivering timely and effective life-saving assistance to people who need it most. The Fund proved its value, operating in a highly complex environment and delivering life-saving assistance and protection to vulnerable people in Yemen. We will remain a reliable and committed partner to OCHA in Yemen, and the Yemen Humanitarian Fund.

Waleed Albahar
Acting Director General, Kuwait Fund for
Arab Economic Development

Country-level Monitoring

All recipients of CBPFS’ funding were subject to monitoring in conformity with global guidelines and the applicable country-specific Operational Manual.

During 2022, the monitoring process and tools underwent revision, taking into account lessons learned and established best practices. The purpose of this revision was to ensure the proper utilization of resources for their intended purpose and in support of achieving agreed project outcomes. To ensure a sufficient level of oversight during the implementation of CBPF-funded projects, various monitoring methods were employed, including on-site visits, engagement of third-party monitoring firms, and remote monitoring.

In accordance with its established guidelines, the CBPFS not only monitored the project activities but also kept a close eye on the financial management of the funded projects through regular financial spot-checks.

These spot-checks were conducted with minimal prior notice and were frequently targeted towards potential discrepancies and irregularities that were observed through partner reports or monitoring visits. The aim of these spot-checks was to identify any such issues at an early stage and take immediate remedial action, including provision of feedback to the partner in order to address identified concerns.



Yemen. Rafida Mansour Ali Mugheer and Afnan Mansour Ali Mugheer were displaced from Sana'a Governorate to Al Jufna camp in Marib Governorate in 2017.

The YHF funded a water network at the camp, providing life-saving assistance to those who need it most. Credit: OCHA/YPN-Owis Al Hamdani

Annex

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AHF	Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund
CBPFs	Country-Based Pooled Funds
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
CVA	Cash and voucher assistance
DRC HF	Democratic Republic of the Congo Humanitarian Fund
EHF	Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund
ERC	Emergency Relief Coordinator
GBV	Gender-based violence
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
HRPs	Humanitarian Response Plans
LHF	Lebanon Humanitarian Fund
MHF	Myanmar Humanitarian Fund
MPC	Multi-purpose cash
NHF	Nigeria Humanitarian Fund
OPDs	Organizations of persons with disabilities
RHFWCA	Regional Humanitarian Fund for West and Central Africa
SCHF	Syria Cross-border Humanitarian Fund
Somalia HF	Somalia Humanitarian Fund
SSHF	South Sudan Humanitarian Fund
Sudan HF	Sudan Humanitarian Fund
Syria HF	Syria Humanitarian Fund
UHF	Ukraine Humanitarian Fund
VHF	Venezuela Humanitarian Fund
WLOs/WROs	Women-led/women's rights organizations
YHF	Yemen Humanitarian Fund

2022 ANNUAL REPORTS

2022 reports will be included once available.



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SUDAN



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VENEZUELA



YEMEN

Full reports are available here: <http://bit.ly/CBPF2022AR>

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DATA & ANALYSIS



For real-time contribution and allocation data with easy-to-use filters and views please visit the Pooled Fund Data Hub: <https://cbpf.data.unocha.org/>

OCHA Pooled Funds data <https://pfddata.unocha.org/>

POOLED FUND IMPACT STORIES



For a collection of impact stories from CERF and the 19 CBPFs, please visit: <https://pooledfunds.impact.unocha.org/>

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